

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 2, 1995

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 6, 1995

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—1995–96 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 313

Introduced by Assembly Member McDonald

February 8, 1995

An act to amend Sections 14875, 14876, 14877.1, 14877.2, and 14877.3 of, and to amend the heading of Chapter 22 (commencing with Section 14875) of Division 7 of, the Water Code, relating to water.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 313, as amended, McDonald. Graywater.

Existing law requires the Department of Water Resources in consultation with the State Department of Health Services, to adopt standards for the installation of graywater systems for landscape irrigation for single-family residential buildings and to revise those standards as needed, authorizes the installation of a graywater system in those buildings if the city or county having jurisdiction over the building determines that the system complies with the department's standards, and authorizes a city or county to either adopt more stringent standards than the department's standards or to prohibit graywater systems. Existing law defines graywater.

This bill would, instead, require the department, by January 1, 1997, in consultation with the State Department of Health Services and the Center for Irrigation Technology at

California State University, Fresno, to adopt standards for the installation of graywater systems, as specified, for subsurface irrigation and other safe uses. The bill would require the department to include drip systems among the approved methods of subsurface irrigation, ~~and would require the department to evaluate the safe use of graywater for purposes other than irrigation.~~ The bill would authorize the installation of a graywater system if the city or county having jurisdiction over the installation determines that the system complies with standards adopted by the department. The bill would authorize a city or county to adopt standards that are more restrictive than the standards adopted by the department, as appropriate for the local area. The bill would revise the definition of graywater.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. The heading of Chapter 22
 2 (commencing with Section 14875) of Division 7 of the
 3 Water Code is amended to read:

4
 5 CHAPTER 22. GRAYWATER SYSTEMS

6
 7 SEC. 2. Section 14875 of the Water Code is amended
 8 to read:

9 14875. This chapter applies to the construction,
 10 installation, or alteration of graywater systems for
 11 subsurface irrigation and other safe uses.

12 SEC. 3. Section 14876 of the Water Code is amended
 13 to read:

14 14876. "Graywater" means untreated wastewater
 15 which has not been contaminated by any toilet discharge,
 16 has not been affected by infectious, contaminated, or
 17 unhealthy bodily wastes, and which does not present a
 18 threat from contamination by unhealthful processing,
 19 manufacturing, or operating wastes. Graywater includes
 20 wastewater from bathtubs, showers, bathroom
 21 washbasins, clothes washing machines, and laundry tubs



1 but does not include wastewater from kitchen sinks or
2 dishwashers.

3 SEC. 4. Section 14877.1 of the Water Code is amended
4 to read:

5 14877.1. (a) On or before January 1, 1997, the
6 department, in consultation with the State Department
7 of Health Services and the Center for Irrigation
8 Technology at California State University, Fresno, shall
9 adopt standards for the installation of graywater systems.
10 In adopting these standards, the department shall
11 consider, among other resources, "Appendix J," as
12 adopted on September 29, 1992, by the International
13 Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials, the
14 graywater standard proposed for the latest edition of the
15 Uniform Plumbing Code of the International Association
16 of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials, the City of Los
17 Angeles Graywater Pilot Project Final Report issued in
18 November 1992, and the advice of the Center for
19 Irrigation Technology at California State University,
20 Fresno, on the installation depth for subsurface drip
21 irrigation systems.

22 (b) ~~(1)~~ The department shall include among the
23 approved methods of subsurface irrigation, ~~including, but~~
24 ~~not but shall not be~~ limited to, drip systems.

25 ~~(2) The department shall evaluate the safe use of~~
26 ~~graywater for purposes other than irrigation.~~

27 (c) The department shall revise its graywater systems
28 standards as needed.

29 SEC. 5. Section 14877.2 of the Water Code is amended
30 to read:

31 14877.2. A graywater system may be installed if the
32 city or county having jurisdiction over the installation
33 determines that the system complies with standards
34 adopted by the department.

35 SEC. 6. Section 14877.3 of the Water Code is amended
36 to read:

37 14877.3. After a public hearing, a city or county may
38 adopt, by ordinance, standards that are more restrictive



1 than the standards adopted by the department, as
2 appropriate for the local area.

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