

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1832

Introduced by Assembly Member Machado

February 3, 2000

An act to add Section 141 to the Water Code, relating to water.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1832, as introduced, Machado. Office of Drought Preparedness.

Existing law authorizes a public water supplier to declare a water shortage emergency condition if it determines that the ordinary requirements of consumers cannot be satisfied without depleting the water supply to the extent that there would be insufficient water for human consumption, sanitation, and fire protection.

This bill would create the Office of Drought Preparedness in the Department of Water Resources and require the office to conduct an annual survey relating to the ability of each local public water supplier serving more than 1,000 residential connections to provide adequate and reliable water service in the event of a recurrence of a prescribed drought pattern. The bill would require the office to prepare and submit to the Legislature a report and a plan that includes recommendations relating to drought preparedness.

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. Section 141 is added to the Water Code,
2 to read:

3 141. (a) The Office of Drought Preparedness is
4 hereby created in the department.

5 (b) On or before October 1 of each year, the office
6 shall conduct a survey relating to every local public water
7 supplier that serves more than 1,000 residential
8 connections to determine the extent to which those
9 suppliers will be able to provide adequate and reliable
10 water service in the event of a recurrence of the following
11 drought patterns: 1928–1933, 1959–1961, 1976–1977, and
12 1989–1993.

13 (c) On or before _____, the office shall prepare and
14 submit to the Legislature a report on the results of each
15 annual survey and include in that report
16 recommendations as to what should be done to assist local
17 public water suppliers to maintain adequate water
18 supplies in the event of a drought similar to those
19 described in subdivision (b).

20 (d) On or before _____, the office shall prepare and
21 submit to the Legislature a plan describing necessary
22 actions to enable the state to better manage the supply of
23 water during periods of drought.

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