

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE
2007–08 SECOND EXTRAORDINARY SESSION

SENATE JOURNAL

IN RECESS

Senate Chamber, Sacramento
Wednesday, October 1, 2008

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES Committee on Rules

Senate Chamber, September 23, 2008

Mr. President: The Committee on Rules has examined:

SB 1

And reports that the same has been correctly enrolled, and presented to the Governor on the 23rd day of September, 2008, at 2 p.m.

PERATA, Chair

MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR

Governor's Office, State Capitol
September 30, 2008

To the Members of the California Senate:

I am signing Senate Bill X2 1, which appropriates \$821 million from Proposition 84 and other bonds for various water projects.

Unfortunately, the bill provides \$200 million less than I had proposed in my January 2008 budget for grants to integrate water management efforts on a regional level. Additionally, more than \$580 million of the funding in this bill was proposed in my January 2008 budget. But because the Legislature removed it from the budget and placed it into this special session bill, instead of being available for projects today, the money will not be available for use until March 2009. This is an unfortunate delay and I look forward to working with Legislative leaders to increase funding and provide timely approval of additional funds in the coming year to address our continuing water crisis.

With our current drought, many water districts are rationing supplies, farmers are letting fields sit idle and some of our reservoirs are less than half full. Court-ordered reductions in deliveries from the Delta, and climate change are further compounding our water challenges. And a state of



37 million people cannot thrive on a water system designed and built for a population half that number.

Once again, I call on the Legislature to work with me to place a comprehensive water bond on the ballot. We must work together to address our water and flood management priorities so we can ensure California has all the water it needs to keep our environment and our economy healthy and our people safe.

Cordially,

ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, Governor

PAULA K. ROSSETTO, Minute Clerk

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