

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2157

Introduced by Assembly Member Mansoor

February 23, 2012

An act to amend Section 116270 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to drinking water.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2157, as introduced, Mansoor. Drinking water act.

Existing law, the California Safe Drinking Water Act, provides for the operation of public water systems, and imposes on the State Department of Public Health various responsibilities and duties. Existing law requires the department to conduct research, studies, and demonstration projects relating to the provision of a dependable, safe supply of drinking water, to adopt regulations to implement the California Safe Drinking Water Act, and to enforce provisions of the federal Safe Drinking Water Act.

This bill would make technical, nonsubstantive changes to these provisions.

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

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

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 116270 of the Health and Safety Code
- 2 is amended to read:
- 3 116270. The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:
- 4 (a) Every citizen of California has the right to pure and safe
- 5 drinking water.

1 (b) Feasible and affordable technologies are available and shall
2 be used to remove toxic contaminants from public water supplies.

3 (c) According to the State Department of ~~Health Services~~ *Public*
4 *Health*, over 95 percent of all large public water systems in
5 California are in compliance with health-based action levels
6 established by the department for various contaminants.

7 (d) It is the policy of the state to reduce to the lowest level
8 feasible all concentrations of toxic chemicals that when present in
9 drinking water may cause cancer, birth defects, and other chronic
10 diseases.

11 (e) This chapter is intended to ensure that the water delivered
12 by public water systems of this state shall at all times be pure,
13 wholesome, and potable. This chapter provides the means to
14 accomplish this objective.

15 (f) It is the intent of the Legislature to improve laws governing
16 drinking water quality, to improve upon the minimum requirements
17 of the federal Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996, to
18 establish primary drinking water standards that are at least as
19 stringent as those established under the federal Safe Drinking
20 Water Act, and to establish a program under this chapter that is
21 more protective of public health than the minimum federal
22 requirements.

23 (g) It is the further intent of the Legislature to establish a
24 drinking water regulatory program within the State Department
25 of ~~Health Services~~ *Public Health* in order to provide for the orderly
26 and efficient delivery of safe drinking water within the state and
27 to give the establishment of drinking water standards and public
28 health goals greater emphasis and visibility within the ~~state~~
29 department.