

SENATE THIRD READING
SB 668 (Rubio)
As Amended April 29, 2019
Majority vote

SUMMARY:

Expands the number of water agencies required to review and revise disaster preparedness plans.

Major Provisions

- 1) Changes the requirement for water agencies having to comply with the disaster preparedness plans from "public water systems" (10,000 or more service connections) to "urban water suppliers" (3,000 or more customers or supply more than 3,000 acre-feet of water annually).
- 2) Requires urban water suppliers to review and revise their disaster preparedness plans every five years.

COMMENTS:

Existing law requires all public water systems with 10,000 or more service connections to review and revise their disaster preparedness plans to ensure that the plans are sufficient to address possible disaster scenarios. These plans must examine and review pumping station and distribution facility operations during an emergency, water pressure at both pumping stations and hydrants, and whether there is sufficient water reserve levels and alternative emergency power.

According to the Author:

Protecting public health is the primary goal of community drinking water systems, and having an up-to-date and workable disaster preparedness plan helps achieve this goal in any crisis situation. In an emergency, the time constraints imposed on public water suppliers, coupled with difficult terrain, closed roads and highways, and overall safety considerations, all require preparedness and planning.

Arguments in Support:

The California Water Association states, "This bill will ensure that all water providers in the State of California are prepared for disasters events, including wildfires."

Arguments in Opposition:

None.

FISCAL COMMENTS:

According to the Assembly Committee on Appropriations, "Unknown, but possibly significant costs of up to \$500,000 GF ongoing for the Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) to review disaster preparedness plans. This bill expands the universe of affected water suppliers subject to disaster planning requirements. As a result, Cal OES is likely to experience an increased workload related to outreach and questions from affected water suppliers. Unknown costs for urban water suppliers to comply with new disaster preparedness planning requirements. To the extent that the Commission on State Mandates determines that the provisions of this bill create a new program or impose a higher level of service on local agencies, local agencies could claim reimbursement of those costs."

VOTES:**SENATE FLOOR: 38-0-0**

YES: Allen, Archuleta, Atkins, Bates, Beall, Borgeas, Bradford, Caballero, Chang, Dodd, Durazo, Galgiani, Glazer, Grove, Hertzberg, Hill, Hueso, Hurtado, Jackson, Jones, Leyva, McGuire, Mitchell, Monning, Moorlach, Morrell, Nielsen, Pan, Portantino, Roth, Rubio, Skinner, Stern, Stone, Umberg, Wieckowski, Wiener, Wilk

ASM GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION: 19-0-2

YES: Gray, Bigelow, Aguiar-Curry, Berman, Bonta, Brough, Cooley, Cooper, Daly, Gallagher, Gipson, Jones-Sawyer, Lackey, Mathis, Melendez, Quirk-Silva, Robert Rivas, Blanca Rubio, Salas

ABS, ABST OR NV: Eduardo Garcia, Low

ASM APPROPRIATIONS: 18-0-0

YES: Gonzalez, Bigelow, Bloom, Bonta, Brough, Calderon, Carrillo, Chau, Diep, Eggman, Fong, Gabriel, Eduardo Garcia, Maienschein, Obernolte, Petrie-Norris, Quirk, Robert Rivas

UPDATED:

VERSION: April 29, 2019

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FN: 0001705