
SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Senator Anna Caballero, Chair
2025 - 2026 Regular Session

AB 367 (Bennett) - Water: County of Ventura: fire suppression

Version: July 10, 2025

Policy Vote: N.R. & W. 6 - 1, L. GOV. 5 - 1

Urgency: No

Mandate: Yes

Hearing Date: August 29, 2025

Consultant: Ashley Ames

Bill Summary: This bill would require, beginning July 1, 2027 water suppliers, as defined, to meet specified requirements relating to wildfire resilience.

***** **ANALYSIS ADDENDUM – SUSPENSE FILE** *****

The following information is revised to reflect amendments
adopted by the committee on August 29, 2025

Fiscal Impact:

- Unknown one-time and ongoing costs, likely in excess of \$150,000, to the Ventura Office of Emergency Services and Ventura Fire to implement the provisions of this bill. If the Commission on State Mandates determines this bill's requirements to be a reimbursable state mandate, the state would need to reimburse these costs to Ventura County (General Fund).
- To the extent this bill increases or adds new requirements for a local water district, such districts generally have the authority to levy service charges, fees, or assessments to pay for the mandated program or level of service, so resultant costs are likely non-reimbursable by the state.

Author Amendments: These amendments would delay implementation, allow for the use of alternative water sources in lieu of backup generation, and make other changes. Specifically, they would:

1. Move the implementation deadline in the bill to 2030.
2. Allow for the use of an alternative water source in lieu of backup generation.
3. Allow for local inspections to be done in coordination with local fire departments.
4. Clarify that the post fire report shall assess water levels relative to the emergency preparedness plans developed by water suppliers.
5. Specify that nothing in this bill would change the confidentiality level of the information shared with the Ventura County Office of Emergency Services, pursuant to paragraphs (1) and (2) of subdivision (b) of Section 7080 of the Water Code.

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