

PROPOSITION 50

SECTION 1. Division 26.5 (commencing with Section 79500) is added to the Water Code, to read:

Division 26.5. WATER SECURITY, CLEAN DRINKING WATER,
COASTAL AND BEACH PROTECTION ACT OF 2002

Chapter 8. Integrated Regional Water Management

79560. The sum of five hundred million dollars (\$500,000,000) shall be available for appropriation by the Legislature from the fund for competitive grants for projects set forth in this section to protect communities from drought, protect and improve water quality, and improve local water security by reducing dependence on imported water. No project financed pursuant to this section shall include an on-stream surface water storage facility or an off-stream surface water storage facility other than percolation ponds for groundwater recharge in urban areas. No river or stream channel modification project whose construction or operation causes any negative environmental impacts may be financed pursuant to this chapter unless those impacts are fully mitigated.

79561. Money appropriated in Section 79560 shall be available for grants for water management projects that include one or more of the following elements:

- (a) Programs for water supply reliability, water conservation, and water use efficiency.
- (b) Storm water capture, storage, treatment, and management.
- (c) Removal of invasive non-native plants, the creation and enhancement of wetlands, and the acquisition, protection, and restoration of open space and watershed lands.
- (d) Non-point source pollution reduction, management, and monitoring.
- (e) Groundwater recharge and management projects.
- (f) Contaminant and salt removal through reclamation, desalting, and other treatment technologies.
- (g) Water banking, exchange, reclamation, and improvement of water quality.
- (h) Planning and implementation of multipurpose flood control programs that protect property and improve water quality, storm water capture and percolation and protect or improve wildlife habitat.
- (i) Watershed management planning and implementation.

(j) Demonstration projects to develop new drinking water treatment and distribution methods.

79562. An amount, not to exceed ten percent (10%) of the money available for appropriation in Section 79560, may be appropriated by the Legislature for facilities, equipment, and other expenses associated with the establishment of comprehensive statewide groundwater monitoring pursuant to Part 2.76 (commencing with Section 10780) of Division 6.

79563. At least fifty percent (50%) of the amount available for appropriation in Section 79560 shall be appropriated to the board. The board shall establish procedures for selecting among eligible projects specified in Section 79561 that use the procedures developed by the board for stakeholder-based accelerated selection and contracting pursuant to Section 79104.32 .

79564. To be eligible for financing pursuant to Section 79563, a project shall meet both of the following criteria:

(a) The project is consistent with an adopted integrated water management plan designed to improve regional water supply reliability, water recycling, water conservation, water quality improvement, storm water capture and management, flood management, recreation and access, wetlands enhancement and creation, and environmental and habitat protection and improvement.

(b) The project includes matching funds or donated services from non-state sources.

79565. Notwithstanding Section 13340 of the Government Code, the sum of one hundred forty million (\$140,000,000) is hereby continuously appropriated from the fund to the Wildlife Conservation Board, without regard to fiscal years, for expenditure by the board and for grants, for the acquisition from willing sellers of land and water resources, including the acquisition of conservation easements, to protect regional water quality, protect and enhance fish and wildlife habitat, and to assist local public agencies in improving regional water supply reliability.