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METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

9-24

April 29, 1993

To: Board of Directors (Executive Committee--Information)
(Special Committee on Legislation--Information)
(Water Problems Committee--Information)
From: General Manager
Subject: Assembly Bill 2262 (Bowen-Torrance)

Report

Assembly Bill 2262 (AB 2262) as amended by Assembly Member Bowen on April 26, 1993, would reduce the number of the members on the California Water Commission (Commission) from nine to seven commissioners. The Commission acts as an advisory body to the Director of Water Resources with activities which include facilitating federal water projects in California. Under current law, the Governor appoints the nine commissioners, seven of whom must have general education and business qualifications and knowledge of water problems and two of whom must have knowledge of the environment but need not have a water background. The two commissioner positions to be eliminated under AB 2262 would be from those requiring water-related knowledge.

AB 2262 would also eliminate all State of California General Fund money currently provided to support Commission activities and makes no provision for new funding sources. Thus, an additional cost of the Commission office could be borne by the Department of Water Resources and State Water Project. While the General Fund portion of the Commission's budget is relatively small, the Commission's work benefits all Californians, not just those in the service area of the State Water Project. For example, the Commission represents California in obtaining federal funds for water projects including flood control and other purposes outside of the State Water Project.

Board Committee Assignments

This letter is referred for information to:

The Executive Committee because it involves legislation which may affect the District, pursuant to Administrative Code Section 2417(a);

The Special Committee on Legislation because it involves a legislative matter that may affect the District, pursuant to Administrative Code Section 2581(a); and

The Water Problems Committee because of its authority to study, advise, and make recommendations with regard to policies, sources, and means of importing water required by Metropolitan, pursuant to Administrative Code Section 248(a).

Recommendation

For information only.


for General Manager

WWH:mb/ayb
(s:\mm\board\AB2262.wwh)

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 26, 1993

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 12, 1993

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—1993-94 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2262

Introduced by Assembly Member Bowen

March 5, 1993

An act to ~~add Section 139 to, and repeal Article 2 (commencing with Section 150) of Chapter 2 of Division 4~~ amend Sections 151, 152, and 154 of, and to repeal and add Section 153 of, the Water Code, relating to water.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2262, as amended, Bowen. California Water Commission : ~~Department of Water Resources.~~

Under existing law, there is the California Water Commission *consisting of 9 members.*

~~This bill would abolish the California Water Commission. The Department of Water Resources would succeed the commission, and would be vested with all of the commission's powers, duties, purposes, responsibilities, and jurisdiction.~~

This bill would reduce the number of members of the commission to 7 and make related changes. The bill would state that General Fund money shall not be appropriated to the commission.

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

P. 3/ The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 139 is added to the
2 SECTION 1. Section 151 of the Water Code is
3 amended to read:

4 151. The California Water Commission consists of
5 ~~nine~~ seven members who are appointed by the Governor
6 subject to the confirmation of the Senate, as provided in
7 this article.

8 SEC. 2. Section 152 of the Water Code is amended to
9 read:

10 152. ~~Seven~~ (a) Five members of the California
11 Water Commission appointed by the Governor shall be
12 selected and approved for appointment on the basis of
13 their general educational and business qualifications, and
14 their knowledge of, interest in, and experience with,
15 problems relating to the control, storage, and beneficial
16 use of water. They shall be appointed in such a manner
17 as to afford representation on the commission of all parts
18 of the state so far as it is practicable. In considering
19 qualifications of ~~such the~~ members of the commission,
20 engineering ability and experience shall be deemed
21 advisable. ~~Two~~

22 (b) Two members of the commission appointed by the
23 Governor shall be members of the public having an
24 interest in, and knowledge of, the environment and
25 need have none of the are not required to meet any other
26 qualifications specified in this section. ~~The next two~~
27 ~~members appointed to the commission by the Governor~~
28 ~~after the effective date of the amendment of this section~~
29 ~~at the 1970 Regular Session of the Legislature shall be~~
30 ~~members of the public having such interest in and~~
31 ~~knowledge of the environment.~~

32 SEC. 3. Section 153 of the Water Code is repealed.

33 153. The terms of the members of the California
34 Water Commission in office when this article takes effect
35 shall expire as follows: one member on January 15, 1958,
36 two members on January 15, 1959, two members on
37 January 15, 1960, and two members on January 15, 1961.

38 The terms of the two additional members of the

1 commission provided for by the act amending this section
2 first appointed by the Governor shall expire as follows:
3 one member on January 15, 1962, and one member on
4 January 15, 1963. The terms of the successors to such
5 members shall be for four years.

6 SEC. 4. Section 153 is added to the Water Code, to
7 read:

8 153. General Fund money shall not be appropriated
9 to the California Water Commission.

10 SEC. 5. Section 154 of the Water Code is amended to
11 read:

12 154. ~~Appointments shall be~~ The members of the
13 California Water Commission shall be appointed for
14 terms of four years. Vacancies shall be immediately filled
15 by the Governor for the unexpired portion of the terms
16 in which they occur.

17 Water Code, to read:

18 139. The California Water Commission is hereby
19 abolished, and the Department of Water Resources
20 succeeds to, and is vested with, all of the powers, duties,
21 purposes, responsibilities, and jurisdiction, of the
22 California Water Commission. Any reference in law to
23 the California Water Commission means the Department
24 of Water Resources.

25 SEC. 2. Article 2 (commencing with Section 150) of
26 Chapter 2 of Division 1 of the Water Code is repealed.

APR 26 '63 16:31