

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2222

Introduced by Assembly Member Caballero

February 20, 2008

An act to add Section 10782 to the Water Code, relating to groundwater.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2222, as introduced, Caballero. Groundwater quality: monitoring. The Groundwater Quality Monitoring Act of 2001 requires the State Water Resources Control Board to integrate existing monitoring programs and design new program elements, as necessary, to establish a comprehensive monitoring program capable of assessing each groundwater basin in the state through direct and other statistically reliable sampling approaches. The act also requires the creation of an interagency task force and an advisory committee.

This bill would require the public advisory committee and interagency task force, before June 1, 2009, to identify and recommend to the Legislature funding options to extend the comprehensive monitoring program until January 1, 2016. The bill would require the state board, on or before January 1, 2010, in consultation with the advisory committee and interagency task force, to evaluate information obtained through the comprehensive monitoring program and submit to the Legislature a prescribed report. The bill would require the advisory committee and interagency task force to identify additional resources to complete that report.

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

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 10782 is added to the Water Code, to
2 read:

3 10782. (a) On or before June 1, 2009, the advisory committee
4 and interagency task force shall identify and recommend to the
5 Legislature funding options to extend, until January 1, 2016, the
6 comprehensive monitoring program established in accordance with
7 Section 10781.

8 (b) On or before January 1, 2010, the state board, in consultation
9 with the advisory committee and interagency task force, shall
10 evaluate information obtained through the comprehensive
11 monitoring program established in accordance with Section 10781,
12 and submit to the Legislature a report that does all of the following:

13 (1) Identifies communities that rely on contaminated
14 groundwater for a primary source of drinking water, identifying
15 the groundwater source, the principal contaminants affecting that
16 groundwater, and contamination levels.

17 (2) Makes recommendations for policies, programs, and
18 estimates of the funding needed to protect, restore, and improve
19 beneficial uses of groundwater.

20 (3) Makes recommendations to enhance the public accessibility
21 of information on groundwater conditions.

22 (c) The advisory committee and interagency task force shall
23 identify additional resources to complete the report required in
24 subdivision (b). Preparation of this report shall not preclude or
25 delay any other program enacted by the Legislature or undertaken
26 by the state to improve groundwater quality or protect groundwater
27 supplies.