

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 10, 2003

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2003–04 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 120

Introduced by Assembly Member Wyland

January 14, 2003

An act relating to water, and making an appropriation therefor.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 120, as amended, Wyland. Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Act of 2002: *Caulerpa taxifolia* eradication.

The Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Act of 2002, an initiative measure approved by the voters at the November 5, 2002, statewide general election, authorizes, for the purposes of financing a safe drinking water, water quality, and water reliability program, the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$3,440,000,000, of which \$500,000,000 is available, upon appropriation by the Legislature for, among other things, the removal of invasive nonnative plants.

This bill would appropriate \$1,100,000 from bond funds made available by the initiative measure to the State Water Resources Control Board for the purposes of making a grant, subject to a certain determination by the state board, to the Southern California *Caulerpa* Action Team to eradicate *Caulerpa taxifolia*, or its clones or derivatives, in the Agua Hedionda Lagoon.

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

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

1 SECTION 1. The Legislature hereby finds and declares the
2 following:

3 (a) *Caulerpa taxifolia* is an extremely invasive salt water algae
4 that is a serious threat to our marine ecosystem.

5 (b) Plant and animal diversity are substantially reduced where
6 *Caulerpa taxifolia* has invaded. *Caulerpa taxifolia* is easily spread
7 by fragmentation and can be transported great distances.

8 (c) There is no known natural predator for *Caulerpa taxifolia*
9 native to California’s marine ecosystem.

10 (d) There are two known infestations of *Caulerpa taxifolia* in
11 California coastal waters that are undergoing eradication efforts.

12 SEC. 2. (a) The sum of one million one hundred thousand
13 dollars (\$1,100,000) is hereby appropriated from the Water
14 Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection
15 Fund of 2002 to the State Water Resources Control Board for the
16 purposes of making a grant, in accordance with subdivision (c) of
17 Section 79561 of the Water Code, to the Southern California
18 *Caulerpa* Action Team to eradicate *Caulerpa taxifolia*, or its clones
19 and derivatives (*taxifolia*, *cupressoides*, *mexicana*, *sertularioides*,
20 *floridana*, *ashmeadii*, *racemosa*, *verticillata*, and *scapelliformis*),
21 in the ~~Auga~~ *Auga* Hedionda Lagoon.

22 (b) The State Water Resources Control Board may only
23 allocate funds pursuant to subdivision (a) if it determines that
24 allocation meets the requirements of Chapter 8 (commencing with
25 Section 79560) of Division 26.5 of the Water Code.

26 (c) For the purposes of subdivision (a), the Southern California
27 *Caulerpa* Action Team consists of federal, state, and local agencies
28 and private entities, organized to eradicate *Caulerpa taxifolia*, or
29 its clones and derivatives, in the ~~Auga~~ *Auga* Hedioda Lagoon.

