

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 19, 2005

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 6, 2005

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2005—06 REGULAR SESSION

## ASSEMBLY BILL

**No. 515**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Richman**  
**(Principal coauthor: Assembly Member Levine)**  
**(Coauthor: Assembly Member Canciamilla Coauthors: Assembly**  
**Members Bogh and Canciamilla)**

February 16, 2005

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An act to add Section 139 to the Water Code, relating to the State Water Project.

### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 515, as amended, Richman. State Water Project: solar photovoltaic panels and systems.

Under existing law, the Department of Water Resources operates the State Water Project.

This bill would require the department to establish a program to authorize private entities to lease space above appropriate conveyance facilities of the State Water Project for the purposes of installing solar photovoltaic panels and ~~generating electricity from those panels~~ *related systems for the generation and transfer of electricity*. The bill would require the department to evaluate proposals for installing solar photovoltaic panels, ~~with and related systems~~. *The bill would require a proposal submitted to the department for evaluation to include an engineering study of the proposed solar photovoltaic panels and related systems. The bill would require the costs of the engineering study and the department's evaluation to be paid by the person or entity making the request. The bill would authorize the department to*

negotiate compensation for an agreement for the installation of solar photovoltaic panels and related systems for the transfer of electricity, that is equal to or exceeds the cost to the department of meeting its obligations under the agreement.

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. The Legislature finds and declares that it is in  
2 the interest of the state to conserve resources and to promote  
3 projects that further that interest.

4 SEC. 2. Section 139 is added to the Water Code, to read:

5 139. (a) The department shall establish a program to  
6 authorize private entities to lease space above appropriate  
7 conveyance facilities of the State Water Project for the purpose  
8 of installing solar photovoltaic panels and systems for generating  
9 electricity from those panels and transferring electricity through  
10 the related systems. Upon request, the department shall evaluate  
11 proposals for installing solar photovoltaic panels and related  
12 systems for the generation and transfer of electricity. ~~The cost of a~~  
13 *proposal submitted to the department for evaluation shall*  
14 *include, but is not limited to, an engineering study of the*  
15 *proposed solar photovoltaic panels and related systems. The*  
16 *costs of the engineering study and the department's evaluation*  
17 *shall be paid by the person or entity making the request.*

18 (b) For the purposes of carrying out subdivision (a), the  
19 department may negotiate any level of compensation for an  
20 agreement for the installation of solar photovoltaic panels and  
21 related systems that is equal to, or greater than, the cost to the  
22 department of meeting its obligations under the agreement.