

**Introduced by Senator Vidak**

**(Coauthors: Senators Berryhill, Cannella, Fuller, Gaines, and Nielsen)**

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Bigelow, Conway, Logue, Olsen, and Salas)

May 6, 2014

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Senate Joint Resolution No. 25—Relative to water.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SJR 25, as introduced, Vidak. Water: agriculture.

This measure would call on the President of the United States to use his executive authority to find innovative ways to provide more water for agriculture in California.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, According to the Department of Food and  
2 Agriculture, California's 80,500 farms and ranches produced over  
3 \$44.7 billion in agricultural products in 2012; and  
4 WHEREAS, California agriculture relies on an adequate water  
5 supply system for irrigation; and  
6 WHEREAS, California is currently experiencing drought  
7 conditions that have not been experienced in the state since 1976  
8 and 1977; and  
9 WHEREAS, As a result of the current drought conditions, no  
10 water has been allocated from the Central Valley Project to  
11 agricultural users, and only 5 percent of water from the State Water  
12 Project has been allocated to agricultural users; and  
13 WHEREAS, The agricultural industry estimates that without  
14 any additional water provided for agriculture, the current drought

1 will result in the fallowing or removal of trees on 800,000 acres  
2 of agricultural land, an economic loss of \$7.48 billion for the state,  
3 as well as the loss of tens of thousands of farmworker jobs; now,  
4 therefore, be it

5 *Resolved by the Senate and the Assembly of the State of*  
6 *California, jointly,* That the Legislature calls on the President of  
7 the United States to use his executive authority to find innovative  
8 ways to provide more water for agriculture in California; and be  
9 it further

10 *Resolved,* That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of  
11 this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United  
12 States, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Majority  
13 Leader of the Senate, each Senator and Representative from  
14 California in the Congress of the United States, and to the author  
15 for appropriate distribution.