

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
LIA LOPEZ

## Assembly California Legislature Committee on Rules

**BLANCA PACHECO** CHAIR

**VICE CHAIR** MATHIS, DEVON J.

**MEMBERS** CERVANTES, SABRINA
FLORA, HEATH
FRIEDMAN, LAURA
JONES-SAWYER, SR., REGINALD B.
LOW, EVAN
MAIENSCHEIN, BRIAN
TING BRIAN

TING, PHILIP Y. WALDRON, MARIE

ARAMBULA, JOAQUIN (D-ALT) DIXON, DIANE (R-ALT)

Tuesday, January 16, 2024 10 minutes prior to Session State Capitol, Room 126

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

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2.	ACR-120 (Garcia)	Positive Parenting Awareness Month. (refer/hear)	Page 4
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<u>Page 28</u> Drinking water consolidation: sewer service AB 805 (Arambula)



CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER LIA LOPEZ



VICE CHAIR DEVON J. MATHIS

**MEMBERS** 

SABRINA CERVANTES
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MARIE WALDRON

JOAQUIN ARAMBULA (D-ALT.) DIANE B. DIXON (R-ALT.)

# Memo

**To:** Rules Committee Members

**From:** Michael Erke, Bill Referral Consultant

**Date:** 1/12/2024

**Re:** Consent Bill Referrals

Since you received your preliminary list of bill referrals, ACR 125 has been added to the referral list.

#### REFERRAL OF BILLS TO COMMITTEE

01/16/2024

Pursuant to the Assembly Rules, the following bills were referred to committee:

Assembly Bill No. Committee: AB 1772 PUB. S. AB 1773 TRANS. AB 1774 TRANS. B. & P. AB 1775 <u>AB 1775</u> G.O. TRANS. AB 1778 <u>AB 1779</u> PUB. S. AB 1781 L. GOV. <u>AB 1782</u> H. & C.D. AB 1782 L. GOV. AB 1785 JUD. H. & C.D. AB 1789 AB 1792 E.M.

 AB 1793
 HIGHER ED.

 AB 1793
 M. & V.A.

 AB 1796
 ED.

 AB 1812
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### **Introduced by Assembly Member Garcia**

January 8, 2024

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 120—Relative to Positive Parenting Awareness Month.

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 120, as introduced, Garcia. Positive Parenting Awareness Month.

This measure would declare the month of January 2024 as Positive Parenting Awareness Month in California.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, Raising children and youth in California to become
- healthy, confident, capable individuals is the most important job
   parents and caregivers have as their children's first teachers; and
- WHEREAS, The quality of parenting or caregiving, starting
- 5 prenatally, is one of the most powerful predictors of children's
- 6 future social, emotional, physical, and behavioral health; and
- WHEREAS, Positive parenting is a protective factor that
- 8 strengthens family relationships, increases parents' confidence,
- 9 and drives children's social, emotional, and relational health and
- 10 development; and
- WHEREAS, All people have inner strengths or resources, yet
- many parents, caregivers, children, and youth of every age, race,
- ethnicity, culture, and social identity feel stressed, isolated, and
- 14 overwhelmed at times; and

ACR 120 — 2 —

WHEREAS, The COVID-19 pandemic, climate-related crises, and racial injustices have exacerbated economic insecurity, mental health challenges, domestic violence, discrimination, and other trauma experienced by many families, particularly Black, Indigenous, Latinx, Asian, and other families of color that already experience inequities rooted in structural racism; and

WHEREAS, Research confirms that positive parenting prevents, buffers, and fosters healing from adverse childhood experiences (ACEs), including abuse, neglect, and household challenges, which impair lifelong health and well-being and occur in the context of adverse community environments that lack equity; and

WHEREAS, Research also confirms that positive parenting creates positive childhood experiences (PCEs), and children and youth who experience safe, stable, and nurturing relationships and environments learn empathy, impulse control, anger management, communication, and problem-solving skills that help protect against interpersonal, family, and community violence; and

WHEREAS, Families in California come in many forms, with children who are raised by parents, grandparents, foster parents, and family members, and supported by other caregivers in a variety of settings such as schools, family childcare, early childhood education centers, health clinics, and home visiting programs; and

WHEREAS, Families can benefit from a "toolkit" of proven strategies and receive support from various positive parenting programs in many counties and tribes through numerous organizations and individual practitioners, thanks to local partnerships, including those between First 5 commissions, community-based organizations, local government, tribal nations, health and human service providers, schools, libraries, higher education institutions, child welfare agencies, family resource centers, and parent leaders; and

WHEREAS, Governor Gavin Newsom recognized, acknowledged, and identified the Triple P – Positive Parenting Program in the May Revision as one of the evidence-based parent education programs to build supports for children, youth, and parents; and

WHEREAS, The Governor's Master Plan for Kids' Mental Health highlights investments to address urgent mental health supports for children and youth especially in underserved and marginalized communities; and -3- ACR 120

WHEREAS, The Governor's master plan creates an inclusive framework for supporting prevention and early intervention of mental health challenges, including the importance of providing more resources for parents to build their knowledge, tools and capacity to support the behavioral health of their children; and

WHEREAS, Parent education is an effective early intervention and prevention tool to mitigate ACEs, support parent-child needs to improve behavioral health, and destigmatize and normalize seeking support; and

WHEREAS, Counties may implement and encourage positive parenting through a population health approach so that all families have equitable opportunities to access information and support in ways that leverage their unique beliefs, traditions, customs, interests, and racial, ethnic, tribal, and cultural practices; and

WHEREAS, Family support professionals and paraprofessionals, recognized for their excellence and compassion across California, provide essential services that support the physical, social-emotional, and behavioral health of children and families; and

WHEREAS, California must continue to ensure that accessible and culturally responsive family support programs are readily available to the millions of Californians that rely on these critical services; and

WHEREAS, Every individual, community group, business, public agency, nonprofit agency, and tribe in California has a role to play in raising awareness of the importance of positive parenting and supporting the health and well-being of children and families; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate thereof concurring, That the Legislature declares the month of January 2024 as Positive Parenting Awareness Month; and be it further

*Resolved*, the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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Date of Hearing: January 16, 2024

#### ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON RULES

Blanca Pacheco, Chair ACR 120 (Garcia) – As Introduced January 8, 2024

**SUBJECT**: Positive Parenting Awareness Month.

**SUMMARY**: Declares the month of January 2024 as Positive Parenting Awareness Month. Specifically, **this resolution** makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) Raising children and youth in California to become healthy, confident, capable individuals is the most important job parents and caregivers have as their children's first teachers.
- 2) The quality of parenting or caregiving, starting prenatally, is one of the most powerful predictors of children's future social, emotional, and physical health.
- 3) Positive parenting is a protective factor that strengthens family relationships, increases parents' confidence, and increases children's social, emotional, relational, and problem-solving skills.
- 4) All people have inner strengths or resources, yet many parents, caregivers, children, and youth of every age, race, ethnicity, culture, and social identity feel stressed, isolated, and overwhelmed at times.
- 5) The COVID-19 pandemic, climate-related crises, and racial injustices have exacerbated economic insecurity, mental health challenges, domestic violence, discrimination, and other trauma experienced by many families, particularly Black, Indigenous, Latinx, Asian, and other families of color that already experience inequities rooted in structural racism.
- 6) Families in California come in many forms, with children who are raised by parents, grandparents, foster parents, and family members, and supported by other caregivers in a variety of settings such as schools, family childcare, early childhood education centers, health clinics, and home visiting programs.
- 7) Families can benefit from a "toolkit" of proven strategies and receive support from various positive parenting programs in many counties and tribes through numerous organizations and individual practitioners, thanks to local partnerships, including those between First 5 Commissions, community-based organizations, local government, tribal nations, health and human service providers, schools, libraries, higher education institutions, child welfare agencies, and parent leaders.
- 8) Counties may implement and encourage positive parenting through a population health approach so that all families have equitable opportunities to access information and support in ways that respect their unique beliefs, traditions, customs, interests, and racial, ethnic, tribal, and cultural practices.
- 9) Family support professionals and paraprofessionals, recognized for their excellence and compassion across California, provide essential services that support the physical, social-emotional, and behavioral health of children and families.

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10) Every individual, community group, business, public agency, nonprofit agency, and tribe in California has a role to play in raising awareness of the importance of positive parenting and supporting the health and well-being of children and families.

FISCAL EFFECT: None

## **REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:**

**Support** 

None on file

**Opposition** 

None on file

Analysis Prepared by: Michael Erke / RLS. / (916) 319-2800

### **Introduced by Assembly Member Weber**

January 10, 2024

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 122—Relative to Maternal Health Awareness Day.

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 122, as introduced, Weber. Maternal Health Awareness Day. This measure would proclaim January 23, 2024, as Maternal Health Awareness Day.

Fiscal committee: no.

- WHEREAS, The United States ranks highest among industrialized nations in maternal mortality; and
- WHEREAS, More than 700 women die each year in the United
- 4 States as a result of pregnancy or delivery complications, and more
- 5 than one-half of these deaths are preventable; and
- WHEREAS, While the national maternal mortality rate continues to rise, California continues to work diligently and successfully to
- 8 reverse this alarming trend; and
- 9 WHEREAS, The California Maternal Quality Care Collaborative
- 10 (CMQCC), a multistakeholder organization committed to ending
- 11 preventable morbidity, mortality, and racial disparities in California
- 12 maternity care, was founded in 2006 at Stanford University School
- 13 of Medicine, in coordination with the California
- 14 Pregnancy-Associated Mortality Review (CA-PAMR) and the
- 15 Public Health Institute, in response to rising maternal mortality
- 16 and morbidity rates; and

ACR 122 \_\_\_\_\_\_

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WHEREAS, CMQCC uses research, quality improvement

- toolkits, statewide outreach collaboratives, and its innovative
- Maternal Data Center to improve health outcomes for mothers and
   infants; and
- WHEREAS, Since the inception of CMQCC and CA-PAMR, California has recorded a maternal mortality decline by 55 percent from 2006 to 2013, inclusive, and has successfully decreased the maternal mortality rate to seven deaths per 100,000 live births; and

WHEREAS, California's pregnancy-related mortality ratio (PRMR) in 2019 was 12.8 deaths per 100,000 live births and was lower than the California PRMR of 16.1 in 2018. The California PRMR began to rise gradually in 2013 and peaked in 2018. The California PRMR was consistently lower than the United States PRMR from 2011 through 2017; and

WHEREAS, CA-PAMR reported that California suicide ratios remained relatively stable from 2008 to 2016, inclusive, regardless of pregnancy status, and women who were pregnant in the year prior to death were significantly less likely to die by suicide than reproductive-age women who were not pregnant within the prior year; and

WHEREAS, A woman's maternal mental health condition can also be a factor in maternal mortality. Recent efforts have been made to bring greater awareness to maternal mental health and to ensure more women are screened and treated for postpartum depression or psychosis and remain covered by health insurance upon diagnosis; and

WHEREAS, Improved screening alone can reduce the severity of postpartum depression. Obstetric providers are implementing more aggressive screening techniques and making strides to further recognize and, therefore, treat maternal mental health conditions; and

WHEREAS, Chronic health conditions increase the risk of pregnancy complications, adverse birth outcomes, and pregnancy-related mortality because the physical demands that pregnancy places on the body's systems can exacerbate existing health conditions; and

WHEREAS, While California has set an example for the rest of the country and has made progress to reduce maternal mortality through investment in maternal health programs, strong leadership -3- ACR 122

and engagement of the maternity care community, and targeted hospital quality improvement, more needs to be done to narrow racial and ethnic disparities, especially with Black women whose pregnancy-related mortality ratio was four to six times greater than the mortality ratios for women of other racial or ethnic groups, including White, Hispanic, and Asian and Pacific Islander; and

WHEREAS, The State Department of Public Health must continue its surveillance to bring heightened awareness to maternal health: and

WHEREAS, California must maintain its efforts to maximize health prior to pregnancy, including, but not limited to, preventing smoking, improving fitness, reducing sexually transmitted diseases, and promoting positive relationships; and

WHEREAS, California must continue to address the postpartum needs of women through such efforts as postpartum visits and interconception care, breastfeeding support, and screening for postpartum depression; and

WHEREAS, California should continue to promote positive birth outcomes for all women through such actions as maternity care quality improvement and home visiting for vulnerable, pregnant women, to provide additional support for Black women, and to further increase culturally and linguistically relevant public awareness about maternal mental health risk factors, signs, symptoms, treatment, and recovery; and

WHEREAS, California should maintain its efforts to improve the coordination of care between obstetrics and psychiatry regarding mental health treatment, as needed, and to continue advancements for improved screening for mental health conditions during and after pregnancy, as well as screening for substance use, adverse childhood experiences, medical diagnoses, including infectious disease, and intimate partner violence; and

WHEREAS, The Legislature seeks to bring awareness to maternal health and continue its work to provide positive outcomes for both the mother and the infant; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate thereof concurring, That the Assembly proclaims January 23, 2024, as Maternal Health Awareness Day to draw attention to the efforts that have improved maternal health in California and to highlight the need for continued improvement of maternal health for all women; and be it further

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#### **ACR 122 \_4**\_

- 1 Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
  2 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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Date of Hearing: January 16, 2024

## ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON RULES

Blanca Pacheco, Chair ACR 122 (Weber) – As Introduced January 10, 2024

SUBJECT: Maternal Health Awareness Day.

**SUMMARY**: Proclaims January 23, 2024, as Maternal Health Awareness Day, to draw attention to the efforts that have improved maternal health in California and to highlight the need for continued improvement of maternal health for all pregnant people. Specifically, **this resolution** makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) The United States ranks highest among industrialized nations in maternal mortality.
- 2) While the national maternal mortality rate continues to rise, California continues to work diligently and successfully to reverse this alarming trend.
- 3) The California Maternal Quality Care Collaborative (CMQCC), a multi-stakeholder organization committed to ending preventable morbidity, mortality, and racial disparities in California maternity care, was founded in 2006 at Stanford University School of Medicine, in coordination with the California Pregnancy-Associated Mortality Review (CA-PAMR) and the Public Health Institute, in response to rising maternal mortality and morbidity rates.
- 4) The CMQCC uses research, quality improvement toolkits, statewide outreach collaboratives, and its innovative Maternal Data Center to improve health outcomes for mothers and infants.
- 5) A woman's maternal mental health condition can also be a factor in maternal mortality. Recent efforts have been made to bring greater awareness to maternal mental health and to ensure more women are screened and treated for postpartum depression or psychosis and remain covered by health insurance upon diagnosis.
- 6) Improved screening alone can reduce the severity of postpartum depression. Obstetric providers are implementing more aggressive screening techniques and making strides to further recognize and, therefore, treat maternal mental health conditions.
- 7) The State Department of Public Health must continue its surveillance to bring heightened awareness to maternal health.
- 8) California must maintain its efforts to maximize health prior to pregnancy, including, but not limited to, preventing smoking, improving fitness, reducing sexually transmitted diseases, and promoting positive relationships; and, must continue to address the postpartum needs of women through such efforts as postpartum visits and interconception care, breastfeeding support, and screening for postpartum depression.
- 9) California should maintain its efforts to improve the coordination of care between obstetrics and psychiatry regarding mental health treatment, as needed, and to continue advancements for improved screening for mental health conditions during and after pregnancy, as well as screening for substance use, adverse childhood experiences, medical diagnoses, including infectious disease, and intimate partner violence.

FISCAL EFFECT: None

**REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:** 

**Support** 

None on file

Opposition

None on file

Analysis Prepared by: Michael Erke / RLS. / (916) 319-2800

### **Introduced by Assembly Member Pellerin**

January 12, 2024

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 125—Relative to National Human Trafficking Awareness Month.

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 125, as introduced, Pellerin. National Human Trafficking Awareness Month

This measure would recognize the month of January 2024 as National Human Trafficking Awareness Month.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, For more than two centuries, the United States has
- worked to protect human rights, promoting a just and free society
- and advancing the dignity of all human beings. The government
- continues to demonstrate serious and sustained efforts to address
- 5 human trafficking; and
- 6 WHEREAS, Classified as a felony, human trafficking is a crime 7 that involves the use of force, fraud, or coercion to recruit, harbor,
- transport, provide, or obtain a person for the purpose of labor and 8 9 commercial sexual exploitation; and
- WHEREAS, According to the United States Department of 10
- State's annual Trafficking in Persons Report, human trafficking 11
- cases have been reported in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, 12
- 13 and United States territories; and
- 14 WHEREAS, The International Labour Organization (ILO) has
- 15 reported that economic and food insecurity are directly linked to

ACR 125 -2-

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1 an increase of both forced child labor and child sex trafficking; 2 and

WHEREAS, Since 2018, the United States Department of Labor reports an increase of 69 percent of children being illegally employed and exploited, and in the last fiscal year, the department found that 835 companies it investigated employed more than 3,800 children in violation of federal labor laws; and

WHEREAS, The California Child Welfare Council found that anywhere from 50 percent to 80 percent of victims of commercial sexual exploitation, including child sex trafficking, are or were formerly involved with the child welfare system; and

WHEREAS, According to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime's (UNODC) 2022 Global Report on Trafficking in Persons, boys represent the fastest growing segment of identified human trafficking victims, and gender norms and masculine stereotypes hinder identification of male trafficking victims. This false perception plays out in several ways that are damaging to boys and men who have experienced trafficking; and

WHEREAS, The 2014 U.S. Trafficking in Persons Report highlights labor trafficking by forced criminality (LTFC), yet this problem remains underidentified. LTFC refers to all labor trafficking where the labor or services the victim is being forced, coerced, or defrauded into performing could otherwise be classified as a crime. Because all LTFC victims have committed a crime, they are often misidentified as criminals, and often do not have access to the protections and services that would become accessible to them if they were appropriately identified as victims, and victims of LTFC often do not self-identify and rarely report the crime to law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, According to the ILO, of the total number of global human trafficking victims, 4,900,000 are women and girls in forced commercial sexual exploitation; and

WHEREAS, According to a 2013 United States Department of Justice study examining the race of sex trafficking victims, 40.4 percent were Black, 23.9 percent were Hispanic, and 4.3 percent were Asian; and

WHEREAS, The Congressional Black Caucus Foundation's "Snapshot on the State of Black Women and Girls: Sex Trafficking in the U.S." states that to better understand the high rates of sex trafficking among Black women and girls, research has indicated

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the continued sexualization of Black women and girls' bodies, which has played out since slavery. The myths around Black women and girls' hypersexuality and the continued treatment of Black girls as older than their age must be explored when looking at the data surrounding the prevalent rates of domestic sex trafficking of Black girls; and

WHEREAS, According to the United States Department of State's annual Trafficking in Persons Report, racial and ethnic minority groups, the LGBTQI+ community, and indigenous populations are extremely vulnerable to exploitation due to social, legal, and cultural marginalization. Studies show that Native American women and girls are victims of human trafficking at a much higher rate compared to the overall population; and

WHEREAS, These same groups are more likely to be affected by climate change as it places them in more vulnerable situations, and, consequently, be more vulnerable to human trafficking; and

WHEREAS, In 2015, the United States Advisory Council on Human Trafficking was established by Congress and sits as the world's preeminent human trafficking advisory body. It is led by survivors of human trafficking and advises federal policy makers on antitrafficking policies; and

WHEREAS, According to the United States Department of State's 2022 Trafficking in Persons Report, meaningful inclusion of survivors as antitrafficking experts must be further integrated across global antitrafficking efforts and accepted as a norm. Partnership between governments, multilateral organizations, and survivors of human trafficking not only improves antitrafficking efforts, but also dismantles the risk of misconceptions, shame, retraumatization, and reexploitation of survivors within their communities, empowers survivors, promotes equity within organizations, and reduces vulnerability to revictimization; and

WHEREAS, In recent years, there has been an increased emphasis in the anti-human trafficking sector on the value of public health and rights-based approaches to addressing human trafficking. A public health approach to violence prevention is an effective way of ending violence by focusing on the health, safety, and well-being of the entire population, rather than focusing on individual instances of violence and punishment for crime; and

WHEREAS, The State of California is dedicated to protecting victims of human trafficking and ensuring they are not themselves

**ACR 125 —4—** 

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criminalized, and the State of California commits to continuing to collaborate with skilled professionals at the local, state, and national levels conducting investigations, collaborations, and trainings, organizing public outreach, promoting awareness, and directly assisting victims of human trafficking; now, therefore, be 5 6

Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate thereof concurring, That the Assembly recognizes the month of January 2024 as National Human Trafficking Awareness Month; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution. 12

Date of Hearing: January 16, 2024

## ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON RULES Blanca Pacheco, Chair

ACR 125 (Pellerin) – As Introduced January 12, 2024

SUBJECT: National Human Trafficking Awareness Month

**SUMMARY**: Recognizes the month of January 2024 as National Human Trafficking Awareness Month. Specifically, **this resolution** makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) For more than two centuries, the United States has worked to protect human rights, promoting a just and free society and advancing the dignity of all human beings. The government continues to demonstrate serious and sustained efforts to address human trafficking.
- 2) According to the United States Department of State's annual Trafficking in Persons Report, human trafficking cases have been reported in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and United States territories.
- 3) Since 2018, the United States Department of Labor reports an increase of 69 percent of children being illegally employed and exploited, and in the last fiscal year, the department found that 835 companies it investigated employed more than 3,800 children in violation of federal labor laws.
- 4) The California Child Welfare Council found that anywhere from 50 percent to 80 percent of victims of commercial sexual exploitation, including child sex trafficking, are or were formerly involved with the child welfare system.
- 5) According to the United States Department of State's annual Trafficking in Persons Report, racial and ethnic minority groups, the LGBTQI+ community, and indigenous populations are extremely vulnerable to exploitation due to social, legal, and cultural marginalization. Studies show that Native American women and girls are victims of human trafficking at a much higher rate compared to the overall population.
- 6) In 2015, the United States Advisory Council on Human Trafficking was established by Congress and sits as the world's preeminent human trafficking advisory body. It is led by survivors of human trafficking and advises federal policy makers on antitrafficking policies.
- 7) According to the United States Department of State's 2022 Trafficking in Persons Report, meaningful inclusion of survivors as antitrafficking experts must be further integrated across global antitrafficking efforts and accepted as a norm.
- 8) Partnership between governments, multilateral organizations, and survivors of human trafficking not only improves antitrafficking efforts, but also dismantles the risk of misconceptions, shame, retraumatization, and reexploitation of survivors within their communities, empowers survivors, promotes equity within organizations, and reduces vulnerability to revictimization.

9) The State of California is dedicated to protecting victims of human trafficking and ensuring they are not themselves criminalized. And, the State of California commits to continuing to collaborate with skilled professionals at the local, state, and national levels conducting investigations, collaborations, and trainings, organizing public outreach, promoting awareness, and directly assisting victims of human trafficking.

FISCAL EFFECT: None

#### **REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:**

**Support** 

None on file

**Opposition** 

None on file

Analysis Prepared by: Michael Erke / RLS. / (916) 319-2800

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### **Introduced by Assembly Member Hoover**

January 8, 2024

House Resolution No. 60—Relative to school governance.

WHEREAS, An excellent and continuously improving public education system is vital to the quality of life of all California citizens and communities; and

WHEREAS, California has nearly 1,000 school districts and county offices of education throughout the state, represented by nearly 5,000 school board members accounting for the largest number of locally elected officials in the state; and

WHEREAS, The first school district in the United States was established in 1721; and

WHEREAS, Local school district governing boards and county boards of education are a central part of our democracy; and

WHEREAS, The mission of public schools to meet the diverse educational needs of all children and to empower pupils to become productive and thoughtful contributors to a democratic society and an ever-changing world is more important now than ever before; and

WHEREAS, Local school boards consistently work to ensure that every pupil's academic, social-emotional, physical, and mental health needs are a priority; and

WHEREAS, Each and every day, school board members continue to advocate to best serve children and parents in our communities; and

WHEREAS, Local school board members are committed to pupils and believe that all pupils can be successful learners and

HR 60 —2—

that the best education is tailored towards providing every pupilwith an opportunity to learn; and

WHEREAS, School board members work closely with parents, certificated and classified educational professionals, and other community members to create effective learning environments where all pupils can thrive; and

WHEREAS, School board members are responsible for building and maintaining the structures that provide a solid foundation for our public school system; and

WHEREAS, School board members are strong advocates for public education who are responsible for communicating the needs of the schools and for understanding the interests and expectations of the diverse communities that they represent; and

WHEREAS, School Board Recognition Month is an ideal time to recognize and celebrate the Californians serving on school district governing boards and county boards of education who help guide the education of pupils in kindergarten and grades 1 to 12, inclusive, and who prepare these pupils for the opportunities and challenges of the 21st century and beyond; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, That the Assembly hereby declares the state's appreciation to every school board and school board member in California and recognizes their dedicated commitment to serving the needs of pupils in our communities by proclaiming the month of January 2024 as School Board Recognition Month; and be it further

Resolved, That the Assembly of the State of California urges all community members to join the Assembly in recognizing the dedication and hard work of local school board members and to work with local school board members to create an education system that meets the needs of all of our children; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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Date of Hearing: January 16, 2024

## ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON RULES Blanca Pacheco, Chair

HR 60 (Hoover) – As Introduced January 8, 2024

**SUBJECT**: School Governance.

**SUMMARY**: Proclaims the month of January 2024 as School Board Recognition Month and recognizes the dedicated commitment of every school board and school board member in California to serving the needs of pupils in our communities. Specifically, **this resolution** makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) California has nearly 1,000 school districts and county offices of education throughout the state, represented by nearly 5,000 school board members accounting for the largest number of locally elected officials in the state.
- 2) The mission of public schools to meet the diverse educational needs of all children and to empower pupils to become productive and thoughtful contributors to a democratic society and an ever-changing world is more important now than ever before.
- 3) Local school boards consistently work to ensure that every pupil's academic, socialemotional, physical, and mental health needs are a priority. Each and every day, school board members continue to advocate to best serve children and parents in our communities.
- 4) School board members work closely with parents, certificated and classified educational professionals, and other community members to create effective learning environments where all pupils can thrive. They are responsible for building and maintaining the structures that provide a solid foundation for our public school system.
- 5) An excellent and continuously improving public education system is vital to the quality of life of all California citizens and communities.
- 6) School Board Recognition Month is an ideal time to recognize and celebrate the Californians serving on school district governing boards and county boards of education who help guide the education of pupils in kindergarten and grades 1 to 12, inclusive, and who prepare these pupils for the opportunities and challenges of the 21st century and beyond.

FISCAL EFFECT: None

#### **REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:**

#### **Support**

None on file

#### **Opposition**

None on file

**Analysis Prepared by**: Michael Erke / RLS. / (916) 319-2800

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Introduced by Assembly Member Quirk-Silva (Principal coauthors: Assembly Members Mike Fong, Kalra, Lee, Low, Muratsuchi, Stephanie Nguyen, and Ting)

January 9, 2024

House Resolution No. 62—Relative to Korean American Day.

1 WHEREAS, On January 13, 1903, the history of Korean

immigration to America began when 102 courageous Korean adults

3 and children landed in the State of Hawaii after venturing across

4 the vast Pacific Ocean aboard the S.S. Gaelic; and

5 WHEREAS, The hopes of these Korean immigrants for America, 6

the land of opportunity, were quickly hindered by social, economic,

and language barriers of unforeseen magnitude; and

8 WHEREAS, These Korean immigrants did not falter in their

9 pursuit of the American dream. Through perseverance and sacrifice,

10 they established a new home in a new land and educated their

11 children: and

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12 WHEREAS, Between 1904 and 1907, approximately 1,000

13 Korean Americans entered the United States mainland from the

State of Hawaii through the city of San Francisco, where the first

Korean American political organizations and Korean language

publications were established; and 16

WHEREAS, While the city of San Francisco remained the center 17

of the Korean American community, there was a gradual migration

from northern California to southern California as more 19

20 employment opportunities opened up, and a new, burgeoning

community of Korean Americans began to thrive in Los Angeles 21

22 and surrounding areas; and -2

WHEREAS, The city of Los Angeles is currently home to the largest population of Korean Americans in the entire United States, with more than 250,000 Korean Americans; and

WHEREAS, Korean Americans are the largest and the fastest growing citizens of Orange County, making Orange County the second largest Korean population in any county in the nation; and

WHEREAS, While the first Korean immigrants to the United States fought and sacrificed to establish themselves, their children grew up to be patriotic citizens, many of whom went on to serve in the Armed Forces of the United States during World War II and to make other important contributions to mainstream American society; and

WHEREAS, The 1965 amendments to the Federal Immigration and Nationality Act (Public Law 89-236) opened the door for a new wave of Korean immigrants to enter the United States. Since its enactment, Korean Americans have become one of the fastest growing groups of Asian Americans in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Today, the number of people of Korean ancestry living in the United States has grown to more than 1,700,000, representing more than a 67-fold increase since 1960; and

WHEREAS, In 1994, the National Association of Korean Americans (NAKA), was founded in the state of New York, becoming the first national civil and human rights organization of Korean Americans; and

WHEREAS, On June 27, 2002, the NAKA was instrumental in the passing of historic resolution S.R. 185 by the United States Senate, recognizing the 100th anniversary of Korean immigration to the United States; and

WHEREAS, In accordance with S.R. 185, President George W. Bush included a proclamation recognizing January 13, 2003, as the Centennial of Korean Immigration to the United States, commending Korean Americans for their "important role in building, defending, and sustaining the United States of America"; and

WHEREAS, Korean American Day is celebrated on January 13 of each year, to not only commemorate the arrival of the first Korean immigrants to the United States but also to honor the Korean American's immense contributions to every aspect of society; and -3- HR 62

WHEREAS, Korean Americans have made important contributions as Californians in the fields of finance, technology, law, medicine, education, sports, media, the arts, the military, and government, as well as other areas; and

WHEREAS, Korean Americans have been at the forefront of Hallyu (Korean Wave) through K-Pop, K-Drama, and K-Foods, that have become an integral part of mainstream American society and enriched our very diverse State of California; and

WHEREAS, With diligence, fortitude, and an enduring belief in the American dream, Korean immigrants have helped to turn emergent areas within the State of California into thriving and respectable communities, while raising their children; and

WHEREAS, As the Korean American community prepares for a new era and creates new history, Korean Americans must instill in younger generations the proper appreciation for the courage and values of their forefathers, a deep sense of their roots, and pride in their own cultural heritage so that they may better contribute to the great State of California, which is rich with ethnic and cultural diversity; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, That the Assembly hereby proclaims January 13, 2024, as Korean American Day; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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Date of Hearing: January 16, 2024

## ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON RULES Blanca Pacheco, Chair

HR 62 (Quirk-Silva) – As Introduced January 9, 2024

**SUBJECT**: Korean American Day.

**SUMMARY**: Proclaims January 13, 2024, as Korean American Day. Specifically, **this resolution** makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) On January 13, 1903, the history of Korean immigration to America began when 102 courageous Korean adults and children ventured across the Pacific Ocean aboard the S.S. Gaelic and landed in Hawaii.
- 2) While the first Korean immigrants to the United States fought and sacrificed to establish themselves, their children grew up to be patriotic citizens, served in the Armed Forces of the United States during World War II, and made other important contributions to mainstream American society.
- 3) With diligence, fortitude, and an enduring belief in the American dream, Korean immigrants have helped to turn emergent areas within the State of California into thriving and respectable communities, while raising their children.
- 4) Korean Americans have made important contributions as Californians in the fields of finance, technology, law, medicine, education, sports, media, the arts, the military, and government, as well as other areas.
- 5) The city of Los Angeles is currently home to the largest population of Korean Americans in the entire United States, with more than 250,000 Korean Americans. And, Korean Americans are the largest and the fastest growing citizens of Orange County, making Orange County the second largest Korean population in any county in the nation.
- 6) As the Korean American community prepares for a new era and creates new history, Korean Americans must instill in younger generations the proper appreciation for the courage and values of their forefathers, a deep sense of their roots, and pride in their own cultural heritage so that they may better contribute to the great State of California.

FISCAL EFFECT: None

#### **REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:**

#### **Support**

None on file

#### **Opposition**

None on file

**Analysis Prepared by**: Michael Erke / RLS. / (916) 319-2800

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(559) 445-5532
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January 8, 2024

The Honorable Assemblymember Blanca Pacheco Chair, Assembly Rules Committee 1021 O Street, Suite 6250 Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 805 Urgency Clause Amendment Request

Dear Assemblymember Pacheco:

I write to request your approval to add an urgency clause to AB 805. Over the interim, we worked closely with the State Water Resource Control Board (Board) to craft a bill that provided interim authority to The Board to intervene when an administrator is negligent. This authority is interim while the full Wastewater Needs Assessment is completed by The Board. This process could take 3-5 years. Because of the challenging budget year we are all facing, The Board identified an existing funding source that could be slightly modified to fund this new authority. However, the minor modification to the fund's previous appropriation has triggered a 2/3 vote.

Near my district, residents of a town called East Orosi have been forced to live for years under severe mismanagement by the town's wastewater administrator. This interim authority would empower The Board to immediately intervene and provide the residents there some relief. Because the date of enactment would be another full year from now, and because the bill is now a 2/3 vote, I am hoping that you would consider approving an urgency clause to accelerate the time to relief for my constituents should the bill pass the Legislature and be signed by the Governor.

I greatly appreciate your consideration of my request. Should you have any further questions, please feel free to reach out to Jacob Moss, Legislative Director, at (916) 548-0121.

Sincerely,

Assemblymember Dr. Joaquin Arambula

District 31

#### AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 9, 2023

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2023–24 REGULAR SESSION

## **ASSEMBLY BILL**

No. 805

#### **Introduced by Assembly Member Arambula**

February 13, 2023

An act to amend Sections 116682 and 116686 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to drinking water.

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 805, as amended, Arambula. Drinking water: consolidation. water consolidation: sewer service.

Existing law, the California Safe Drinking Water Act, provides for the operation of public water systems and imposes on the State Water Resources Control Board various responsibilities and duties. The act authorizes the state board to order consolidation with, or extension of service from, a receiving water system in either of the following circumstances: (1) a public water system or state small water system, serving a disadvantaged community, consistently fails to provide an adequate supply of safe drinking water, or is an at-risk water system, or  $\frac{1}{2}(2)$  a disadvantaged community, in whole or in part, is substantially reliant on domestic wells that consistently fail to provide an adequate supply of safe drinking water, or are at-risk domestic wells.

This bill would authorize the state board, if sufficient funds are available, to order consolidation of sewer service along with an order of consolidation of drinking water systems when both of the receiving and subsumed water systems provide sewer service and after the state board engages in certain activities, including, but not limited to, consulting with the relevant regional water board and the receiving

**AB 805** \_2\_

water system and conducting outreach to ratepayers and residents served by the receiving and subsumed water systems, as provided.

Existing law authorizes the state board, if sufficient funds are available, to contract with, or provide a grant to, an administrator to provide administrative, technical, operational, legal, or managerial services, or any combination of these services to a designated water system to assist with the provision of an adequate supply of affordable, safe drinking water.

The bill would also authorize the state board to require the administrator to provide administrative, technical, legal, or managerial services for any sewer service provided by the designated water system.

This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to enact subsequent legislation to authorize the board to order consolidation of wastewater.

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

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

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 116682 of the Health and Safety Code is
- 2 amended to read: 3 116682. (a) (1) The state board, in circumstances described
- in subparagraph (A) or (B), may order consolidation with a
- 5 receiving water system as provided in this section and Section
- 116684. The consolidation may be physical or operational. The 6
- 7 state board may also order the extension of service to an area within
- a disadvantaged community that does not have access to an 8
- 9 adequate supply of safe drinking water so long as the extension of
- 10 service is an interim extension of service in preparation for consolidation. The consolidation shall occur within six months of 11
- the initiation of the extension of service. The state board may set 12
- 13 timelines and performance measures to facilitate completion of 14 consolidation.
- 15 (A) A public water system or a state small water system, serving a disadvantaged community, consistently fails to provide an 16 17 adequate supply of safe drinking water, or is an at-risk water 18 system.
- 19 (B) A disadvantaged community, in whole or in part, is substantially reliant on domestic wells that consistently fail to 20 provide an adequate supply of safe drinking water, or are at-risk 21
- 22 domestic wells.

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(2) No later than July 1, 2020, the state board shall develop and adopt a policy that provides a process by which members of a disadvantaged community may petition the state board to consider ordering consolidation. The state board shall adopt the policy in a policy handbook consistent with the process provided for in subdivision (a) of Section 116760.43.

- (b) Before ordering consolidation or extension of service as provided in this section, the state board shall do all of the following:
  - (1) Encourage voluntary consolidation or extension of service.
  - (2) Consider other enforcement remedies specified in this article.
- (3) Consult with, and fully consider input from, the relevant local agency formation commission regarding the provision of water service in the affected area, the recommendations for improving service in a municipal service review, whether the consolidation or extension of service is cost effective, and any other relevant information.
- (4) Consult with, and fully consider input from, the Public Utilities Commission when the consolidation would involve a water corporation subject to the commission's jurisdiction. If a receiving water system is regulated by the Public Utilities Commission, the state board shall inform the commission at least 60 days before the consolidation order, and upon issuance of the order the commission shall open a proceeding to determine cost allocation, ratemaking, and commission public participation requirements for the consolidation process.
- (5) Consult with, and fully consider input from, the local government with land use planning authority over the affected area, particularly regarding any information in the general plan required by Section 65302.10 of the Government Code.
- (6) Consult with, and fully consider input from, the potentially receiving water system and all public water systems in the chain of distribution of the potentially receiving water system. The input from the potentially receiving water system may include, but is not limited to, information related to the classification of the potentially subsumed water system as an at-risk water system or a state small water system or of at-risk domestic wells.
- (7) Consult with, and fully consider input from, any groundwater sustainability agency in a basin that provides groundwater supply, in whole or in part, to the affected area.

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(8) (A) Notify the potentially receiving water system and the potentially subsumed water system, if any, and establish a reasonable deadline of no less than six months, unless a shorter period is justified, for the potentially receiving water system and the potentially subsumed water system, if any, to negotiate consolidation or another means of providing an adequate supply of safe drinking water.

- (B) During this period, the state board shall provide technical assistance and work with the potentially receiving water system and the potentially subsumed water system to develop a financing package that benefits both the receiving water system and the subsumed water system.
- (C) Upon a showing of good cause, the deadline may be extended by the state board at the request of the potentially receiving water system, potentially subsumed water system, the local agency formation commission with jurisdiction over the potentially subsumed water system, or the Public Utilities Commission.
- (9) Consider the affordability of the anticipated monthly rates for drinking water service to residential customers of the potentially subsumed water system.
- (10) (A) Hold at least one public meeting at the initiation of this process in a place as close as feasible to the affected areas. The state board shall make reasonable efforts to provide a 30-day notice of the meeting to the ratepayers, renters, and property owners to receive water service through service extension or in the area of the subsumed water system and all affected local government agencies and drinking water service providers. The 30-day notice shall include information about water quality concerns in the area, relevant information about health effects of water contaminants, and information about opportunities for consolidation or extension of service to address water quality issues. The meeting shall provide representatives of the potentially subsumed water system, affected ratepayers, renters, property owners, the potentially receiving water system, and the public an opportunity to present oral and written comments.
- (B) The state board shall provide an opportunity to submit comments by mail or electronically during the notice period and for at least one week after the meeting.

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(C) The state board shall review comments received during the meeting and received by mail and electronically during the notice period and for one week after the public meeting.

- (11) If the potentially subsumed water system to be consolidated into the receiving water system is an at-risk water system, the state board shall do all of the following:
- (A) Conduct outreach to ratepayers and residents served by the at-risk water system, including identifiable local community groups. These outreach efforts shall gauge community support for consolidation of the at-risk water system. The state board shall consider the results of this outreach when deciding whether to order consolidation of the at-risk water system.
- (B) Consider any petition submitted pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) by members of a disadvantaged community served by the at-risk water system.
- (C) (i) If the potentially subsumed water system contends during the initial written comment period set forth in subparagraph (B) of paragraph (10) that it is not an at-risk water system, the state board shall consider during a public meeting any information provided by the potentially subsumed water system in support of its contention that it is not an at-risk water system.
- (ii) The state board shall make reasonable efforts to provide a 30-day notice of the public meeting described in clause (i) to the ratepayers, renters, and property owners to receive water service through service extension or in the area of the subsumed water system and all affected local government agencies and drinking water service providers.
- (c) If a consolidation or other means of providing an adequate supply of safe drinking water has not been negotiated by the potentially receiving water system and the potentially subsumed water system before the expiration of the deadline set by the state board pursuant to paragraph (8) of subdivision (b), the state board shall do the following:
- (1) Consult with the potentially receiving water system and the potentially subsumed water system, if any.
- (2) (A) If the consolidation has not concluded within six months following the first public meeting held pursuant to paragraph (10) of subdivision (b), conduct a public meeting in a location as close as feasible to the affected communities. The meeting shall be held

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1 after the state board has made the findings described in subdivision 2 (d).

- (B) The state board shall make reasonable efforts to provide a 30-day notice of the meeting to the ratepayers, renters, property owners to receive water service through service extension or in the area of the subsumed water system, and the public, and to all affected local government agencies and drinking water service providers.
- (C) The meeting shall provide representatives of the potentially subsumed water system, affected ratepayers, renters, property owners, and the potentially receiving water system an opportunity to present oral and written comments.
- (D) The meeting shall provide an opportunity for public comment.
- (3) The state board shall make reasonable efforts to ensure that a receiving water system and a subsumed water system are informed on a regular basis of progress regarding actions taken pursuant to this section.
- (d) Before ordering consolidation or extension of service, the state board shall find all of the following:
- (1) The potentially subsumed water system has consistently failed to provide an adequate supply of safe drinking water or it is at risk of doing so, as determined by the state board.
- (2) Reasonable efforts to negotiate *voluntary* consolidation or extension of service were made.
- (3) Consolidation of the receiving water system and subsumed water system or extension of service is appropriate and technically and economically feasible. In making this finding, the state board shall consider how many owners of dwelling units served by domestic wells in the service area have provided, or are likely to provide, written consent to extension of service. The state board need not find that any specific percentage of the owners of dwelling units served by domestic wells in the service area are likely to consent to the consolidation or extension of service to serve their dwelling unit.
- (4) There is no pending local agency formation commission process that is likely to resolve the problem in a reasonable amount of time.

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(5) Concerns regarding water rights and water contracts of the subsumed and receiving water systems have been adequately addressed.

- (6) Consolidation or extension of service is an effective and cost-effective means to provide an adequate supply of safe drinking water.
- (7) The capacity of the proposed interconnection needed to accomplish the consolidation is limited to serving the current customers of the subsumed water system, infill sites within the community served by the subsumed water system, residents of disadvantaged communities in existence as of the date of consolidation and that are located along the service line connecting the subsumed water system and the receiving water system, and vacant lots within the community served by the subsumed water system that are zoned to allow residential use and have no more than one other vacant lot between that parcel and an infill parcel, including capacity needed for services such as firefighting.
- (e) Upon ordering consolidation or extension of service, the state board shall do all of the following:
- (1) As necessary and appropriate, as determined by the state board, compensate the receiving water system for any capacity lost as a result of the consolidation or extension of service either by paying the water system's capacity charge set out in the water system's adopted rate structure or by providing additional capacity needed as a result of the consolidation or extension of service, and by paying legal fees. When the receiving water system is compensated for capacity lost by payment of a capacity charge, the capacity charge shall be paid only to the extent that it does not exceed the reasonable cost of providing the service in accordance with Section 66013 of the Government Code. If capacity beyond what is needed for consolidation is provided by a project funded through the state board, the state board shall retain an option to use that capacity for future consolidations, without paying additional capacity charges, for five years, unless it releases that option in writing. Funding pursuant to this paragraph is available for the general purpose of providing financial assistance for the infrastructure needed for the consolidation or extension of service and does not need to be specific to each individual consolidation project. The state board shall provide appropriate financial assistance for the water infrastructure needed for the consolidation

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or extension of service. The state board's existing financial assistance guidelines and policies shall be the basis for the financial assistance.

- (2) Ensure payment of standard local agency formation commission fees caused by state board-ordered consolidation or extension of service.
- (3) Adequately compensate the owners of a privately owned subsumed water system for the fair market value of the system, as determined by the Public Utilities Commission or the state board.
- (4) Coordinate with the appropriate local agency formation commission and other relevant local agencies to facilitate the change of organization or reorganization.
- (5) If ordering consolidation or extension of service between two water systems, consider any existing domestic wells within the service area that could also be subject to consolidation or extension of service pursuant to this section.
- (6) If ordering consolidation or extension of service to a community containing residences served by domestic wells, promptly take all reasonable steps to obtain written consent to the consolidation or extension of service from an owner of each residence served by a domestic well.
- (f) If funds are appropriated for this purpose, the state board may make funds available for the purposes of subdivision (e), as necessary and appropriate, to the receiving water system, the subsumed water system, or an administrator providing full oversight of construction or development projects related to a consolidation or extension of service.
- (g) (1) For purposes of this section, fees, charges, and terms and conditions that may be imposed on new and existing customers of a receiving water system shall be subject to the following limitations:
- (A) The consolidated water system shall not increase charges on existing customers of the receiving water system solely as a consequence of the consolidation or extension of service unless the customers receive a corresponding benefit.
- (B) Except as provided in paragraph (2), fees or charges imposed on a customer of a subsumed water system shall not exceed the costs of the service.
- (C) Except as provided in paragraph (2), the receiving water system shall not charge any fees to, or place conditions on,

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customers of the subsumed water system that it does not charge to, or impose on, new customers that are not subject to the consolidation with the receiving water system.

- (2) (A) Notwithstanding subparagraph (B) or (C) of paragraph (1), if costs incurred by the receiving water system in completing the consolidation or extension of service are not otherwise recoverable as provided in subparagraph (B) of this paragraph, the receiving water system may charge fees to customers of the subsumed water system to recover those costs.
- (B) A receiving water system shall not charge a fee pursuant to subparagraph (A) for costs that are otherwise recoverable from the state, the federal government, programs administered by local agencies, parties responsible for causing contamination that the consolidation or extension of service is designed to address, or other sources, as determined by the state board.
- (h) The state board shall not, pursuant to this section, fund public works or upgrades unrelated to the delivery of an adequate supply of affordable, safe drinking water, including, but not limited to, the installation of streetlights, sidewalks, curbs, and gutters. A local agency's decision whether to provide these public works or upgrades shall not delay the consolidation or extension of service.
- (i) When a public water system is operated by a local educational agency, the state board may order a receiving water system to consolidate or extend service to a public water system operated by a local educational agency pursuant to this section if both the following additional conditions are met:
- (1) The local educational agency serves students from one or more census blocks that are disadvantaged communities.
- (2) The state board obtains a written determination from the local educational agency that the state board's analysis in the financing package, developed pursuant to subparagraph (B) of paragraph (8) of subdivision (b), indicates that consolidating or extending service would not result in additional unacceptable costs to the local educational agency and would result in safe drinking water being available to the local educational agency.
- (j) An order pursuant to this section shall not require consolidation or extension of service to a residence served solely by a domestic well until an owner of the affected residence provides written consent to the consolidation or extension of service. Any domestic well owner within the consolidation or extended service

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area that does not provide written consent shall be ineligible, until
the consent is provided, for any future water-related grant funding
from the state other than funding to mitigate a well failure, disaster,
or other emergency.

- (k) A finding that a disadvantaged community, in whole or in part, is substantially reliant on at-risk domestic wells shall be based on the maps created pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) of Section 116772 and inspection or testing of the domestic wells showing an imminent risk of failing to provide an adequate supply of safe drinking water.
- (*l*) The state board may prioritize consolidation of an at-risk water system that has historically been overburdened by pollution and industrial development or faced other environmental justice hurdles.
- (m) Division 3 (commencing with Section 56000) of Title 5 of the Government Code does not apply to an action taken by the state board pursuant to this section.
- (n) If sufficient funding is available, the state board may order consolidation of sewer service along with an order of consolidation of drinking water pursuant to this section, when both the subsumed water system and receiving water system provide sewer service, after doing all of the following:
- (1) Consulting with, and fully considering input from, the relevant regional water board.
- (2) Consulting with, and fully considering input from, the receiving water system.
- (3) Conducting outreach to ratepayers and residents served by the receiving water system and subsumed water system, including identifiable local community groups. These outreach efforts shall gauge community support for consolidation of the subsumed water system. The state board shall consider the results of this outreach when deciding whether to order consolidation of the sewer services of the subsumed water system.
- 34 SEC. 2. Section 116686 of the Health and Safety Code is 35 amended to read:
  - 116686. (a) (1) To provide an adequate supply of affordable, safe drinking water to disadvantaged communities, voluntary participants, and public water systems that have demonstrated difficulty in maintaining technical, managerial, and financial

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capacity and to prevent fraud, waste, and abuse, the state board may do any of the following, if sufficient funding is available:

- (A) (i) Contract with, or provide a grant to, an administrator to provide administrative, technical, operational, legal, or managerial services, or any combination of those services, to a designated water system to assist the designated water system with the provision of an adequate supply of affordable, safe drinking water, which services may include steps necessary to enable consolidation.
- (ii) To fulfill the requirements of this section, the state board may contract with more than one administrator, but only one administrator may be assigned to provide services to a given designated water system.
- (iii) An administrator may provide services to more than one designated water system.
- (B) Order a designated water system to accept administrative, technical, operational, legal, or managerial services, including full management and control of all aspects of the designated water system, from an administrator selected by the state board.
- (C) Order a designated water system to accept administrative, technical, operational, legal, or managerial services from an administrator appointed by the state board for full oversight of construction or development projects related to a consolidation or extension of service, including, but not limited to, accepting loans and grants issued by the state board and entering into contracts on behalf of the designated water system.
- (2) In performing its duties pursuant to paragraph (1), the state board may use criteria from the handbook adopted pursuant to subdivision (g).
- (3) When contracting with, or ordering a designated water system to accept, an administrator pursuant to paragraph (1), the state board may also require the administrator to provide administrative, technical, legal, or managerial services for any sewer service provided by the designated water system.
- (b) Unless the state board has already held a public meeting pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 116682, the state board shall do all of the following to determine that a public water system or state small water system is a designated water system:
- (1) Provide the public water system or state small water system with notice and an opportunity to show either of the following:

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 (A) That the public water system or state small water system has neither consistently failed to provide an adequate supply of affordable, safe drinking water nor is it an at-risk water system.

- (B) That the public water system or state small water system has taken steps to timely address its failure to provide an adequate supply of affordable, safe drinking water and that it is not an at-risk water system.
- (2) (A) Conduct a public meeting in a location as close as feasible to the affected community.
- (B) The state board shall make reasonable efforts to provide a 30-day notice of the public meeting to affected ratepayers, renters, and property owners.
- (C) The state board shall provide representatives of the public water system or state small water system, affected ratepayers, renters, and property owners with an opportunity to present oral and written comments at the public meeting.
- (D) The state board shall provide at the meeting an opportunity for public comment.
- (3) Provide the public with an opportunity to submit comments by mail or electronically during the 30-day notice period and for at least one week after the public meeting described in paragraph (2).
- (4) If the public water system is operated by a local educational agency, obtain the local educational agency's agreement, in writing, to the appointment of an administrator.
- (c) The state board shall make financial assistance available to an administrator of a designated water system, as appropriate and to the extent that funding is available.
- (d) The authority granted to an administrator by the state board pursuant to subdivision (a) may include, but shall not be limited to, the authority to do all of the following:
- (1) Expend available moneys for capital infrastructure improvements that the designated water system needs to provide an adequate supply of affordable, safe drinking water or to execute a consolidation ordered pursuant to Section 116682.
- (2) Set and collect user water rates and fees, subject to approval by the state board. The state board shall consider affordability when approving water rates and fees. The provisions of this section are subject to all applicable constitutional requirements, including Article XIII D of the California Constitution.

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(3) Expend available moneys for operation and maintenance costs of the designated water system.

- (4) Expend available moneys necessary to achieve consolidation, including conducting feasibility or planning studies, or addressing outstanding technical or legal issues.
- (e) The state board shall work with the administrator of a designated water system and the communities served by that designated water system to develop, within the shortest practicable time, adequate technical, managerial, and financial capacity to deliver an adequate supply of affordable, safe drinking water so that the services of the administrator are no longer necessary.
- (f) A designated water system shall not be responsible for any costs associated with an administrator that are higher than the costs necessary to maintain the designated water system and provide an adequate supply of affordable, safe drinking—water. water or provision of sewer service.
- (g) Before ordering a designated water system to accept administrative, technical, operational, legal, or managerial services from an administrator pursuant to subdivision (a), the state board shall develop standards, terms, and procedures in a handbook adopted consistent with the process provided for in subdivision (a) of Section 116760.43 for all of the following:
  - (1) Ensuring compliance with subdivision (f).
- (2) Providing opportunity for public comment on the selection of an administrator and the services to be provided.
- (3) Providing public access to budgets, ownership and financial information, and other documents and records related to the provision of water service to the designated water system or affected residences and to the management of the designated water system by the administrator.
- (4) Providing regular public meetings, notifications, opportunities for public comment, and other forms of engagement with customers of the designated water system for significant decisions or actions made on behalf of the designated water system, including, but not limited to, establishing operating budgets, altering water rates, adopting system policies, entering into long-term contracts or financing commitments, and developing system projects or plans.

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(5) Formal requests to the state board to reverse or modify a decision of an administrator or to request substitution of an administrator.

- (6) Ensuring an administrator acts in the best interests of the community served.
- (7) Development and approval of a post-administrator drinking water service plan to ensure compliance with subdivision (e). Development of the plan shall include, but is not limited to, an evaluation of long-term public governance or community ownership options.
- (h) An administrator appointed pursuant to this section for a designated water system shall not be liable for claims by past or existing ratepayers, or those who consumed water provided through the designated water system, if good faith, reasonable effort, and ordinary care were used by the administrator to assume possession of, or to operate, the designated water system.
- (i) An administrator appointed pursuant to this section for a designated water system shall not be liable for claims by past or existing ratepayers, or those who consumed water provided through the designated water system, for any injury or damages that occurred before the commencement of the operation period.
- (j) This section does not limit or supersede any other law authorizing claims against the state board or providing a defense to liability, and shall not be construed to create any new or expanded basis for liability.
- (k) Nothing in this section shall be construed to do any of the following:
- (1) Relieve a water district, water wholesaler, or any other entity from complying with any provision of federal or state law, including those pertaining to drinking water quality.
- (2) Impair any cause of action by the Attorney General, a district attorney, a city attorney, or other public prosecutor, or impair any other action or proceeding brought by, or on behalf of, a regulatory agency.
- (3) Impair any claim alleging the taking of property without compensation within the meaning of either the Fifth Amendment to the United States Constitution or Section 19 of Article I of the California Constitution.
- (4) Relieve any person or entity from liability for action or inaction in bad faith, or without reasonable effort or ordinary care.

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(*l*) Nothing in this section shall absolve, indemnify, or protect a prior operator, designated water system, or individual from liability based on an act or failure to act prior to the operation period.

- (m) Administrative and managerial contracts pursuant to this section shall be exempt from Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 10290) of Part 2 of Division 2 of the Public Contract Code and may be awarded on a noncompetitive bid basis as necessary to implement the purposes of this section.
- (n) For purposes of this section, a local government, as defined in Article XIII C of the California Constitution, that sets water rates in accordance with Article XIII D of the California Constitution shall be deemed to be providing affordable water.
- (o) This section does not apply to a charter city, charter county, or charter city and county.
- (p) (1) For purposes of this section, an administrator is authorized to act on behalf of an affected residence to the same extent, and in the same manner, as a designated water system with the consent of the affected residence.
- (2) For purposes of this section, where an administrator is authorized to act on behalf of a designated public water system, it may also act on behalf of a voluntary participant.
- (q) The Legislature finds and declares that the funding provided to a state small water system, affected residence, public water system, voluntary participant, or administrator for purposes of this section serves a public purpose and does not constitute a gift of public funds within the meaning of Section 6 of Article XVI of the California Constitution.
- (r) For purposes of this section, the following terms have the following meanings:
- (1) "Administrator" means a person whom the state board has determined is competent to perform the administrative, technical, operational, legal, or managerial services required for purposes of this section, pursuant to criteria set forth in the handbook adopted pursuant to subdivision (g). Notwithstanding any other law, a privately owned public utility may serve as an administrator for purposes of this section.
  - (2) "Designated water system" means any of the following:
- (A) A public water system or state small water system that has been ordered to consolidate pursuant to Section 116682.

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1 (B) A public water system or state small water system that serves 2 a disadvantaged community and that the state board finds 3 consistently fails to provide an adequate supply of affordable, safe 4 drinking water.

(C) An at-risk water system.

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- 6 (3) "Voluntary participant" means the owner of a domestic well 7 or state small water system who has agreed to accept financial 8 assistance pursuant to Chapter 4.6 (commencing with Section 9 116765) for the provision of an adequate and affordable supply of 10 safe drinking water.
- SECTION 1. It is the intent of the Legislature to enact subsequent legislation to authorize the State Water Resources
- 13 Control Board to order consolidation of wastewater.

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