

Assembly Bill No. 2717

CHAPTER 682

An act relating to water conservation.

[Approved by Governor September 22, 2004. Filed
with Secretary of State September 22, 2004.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2717, Laird. California Urban Water Conservation Council: stakeholders.

Existing law, known as the Water Conservation in Landscaping Act, requires the Department of Water Resources to adopt a model local water efficient landscape ordinance that each local agency may adopt and requires a local agency to adopt a water efficient landscape ordinance by January 1, 1993, unless the local agency adopts specified findings that an ordinance is unnecessary.

This bill would declare the Legislature's intent that the California Urban Water Conservation Council convene a stakeholder workgroup composed of public and private agencies, and associations to evaluate and recommend proposals for improving the efficiency of water use in new and existing urban irrigated landscapes in the state.

The bill would also declare the Legislature's intent that the stakeholder workgroup report its recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature by December 31, 2005, and would provide that financial contributions by the nonstate agency stakeholders to pay the expenses of the stakeholder workgroup be on a voluntary basis without any contribution from the state agency stakeholders.

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

SECTION 1. It is the intent of the Legislature that all of the following occur:

(a) Not later than January 1, 2005, the California Urban Water Conservation Council (CUWCC) is hereby requested to convene a stakeholders workgroup to develop, evaluate and recommend proposals for improving the efficiency of water use in new and existing urban irrigated landscapes in the state. The CUWCC may designate a chair for the stakeholder workgroup.

(b) Representatives of the Department of Water Resources, State Water Resources Control Board, California Bay-Delta Authority, United States Bureau of Reclamation, California Landscape Contractors



Association, manufacturers or designers of irrigation equipment, Green Industry Council, building and construction industry, urban water suppliers, recognized environmental advocacy groups, the League of California Cities, the California State Association of Counties, and the University of California may be invited to participate in the stakeholder workgroup.

(c) The stakeholder workgroup may examine and report to the Governor and the Legislature by December 31, 2005, on all of the following matters:

(1) Review and make recommendations for improving the Model Local Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance.

(2) Review and make comments on the following additional matters:

(A) Potential labeling requirements and performance standards for landscape irrigation equipment sold or installed in California.

(B) Potential use and application of water budgets for irrigated landscaped areas.

(C) Potential standardized training and certification requirements for personnel engaged in the business of design, installation, operation, or maintenance of irrigated landscapes, including water budgets.

(D) Potential use of incentives and disincentives to encourage the adoption and implementation of landscaping efficiency measures.

(E) Other measures for improving the water efficiency of existing irrigated landscapes.

(F) Areas for further research and development regarding water efficient plant varieties, water efficient irrigation equipment, and remote monitoring of landscape water consumption, together with plans for organizing, funding, and conducting the research.

(d) All expenses for the stakeholder workgroup shall be the responsibility of the nonstate agency stakeholders. Financial contributions by the nonstate agency stakeholders to pay the expenses of the stakeholder workgroup shall be made on a voluntary basis, and no state agency stakeholder shall be required to pay any of the expenses.

