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State Leaders Announce Drought Relief Aid

Hundreds of Millions of Dollars to be spent to Alleviate Drought Impacts

Sacramento, CA – Governor Jerry Brown, alongside Senate President pro Tem Darrel Steinberg and Assembly Speaker John Perez, announced legislation that will funnel \$687.4 million to efforts to alleviate the impacts of the current drought and ongoing record-breaking dry conditions. This announcement comes on the heels of a visit from President Barack Obama, who was recently in Fresno to discuss the drought and highlight federal assistance for the state during the drought emergency. The legislation announced today includes funding for drought preparedness and response efforts, securing emergency drinking water supplies, creating water efficiency projects, emergency food and shelter for people who are unable to work due to fallowed farmland, among numerous other critical efforts that will help to ensure Californians continue to have safe and reliable water available. The funding for these projects comes from various sources, including money from Proposition 84. Many of these efforts are being expedited to ensure that the funding can reach the hardest hit communities as soon as possible. Below is a statement on the emergency drought legislation from State Water Contractors General Manager Terry Erlewine:

“We applaud the Governor and state leadership on the efforts announced today to help mitigate impacts the drought is causing statewide. Public water agencies are working hard to carefully manage water supplies and encourage conservation, but we all can and must do more. This additional funding for local supply projects will be crucial in efforts to continue providing safe and reliable water to communities across California during this unprecedented drought. Looking forward, these local efforts must be coupled with increased reliability of our statewide water supply – in preparing for the future it is crucial that we secure all water supplies, both local and imported.”

More information on the emergency drought legislation can be found [here](#).

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