

**DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE BILL ANALYSIS**

**AMENDMENT DATE:** April 9, 2008  
**POSITION:** Oppose

**BILL NUMBER:** SB 1258  
**AUTHOR:** A. Lowenthal

**BILL SUMMARY: Graywater Standards**

Existing law requires the Department of Water Resources (DWR), in consultation with the Department of Public Health and the Center for Irrigation Technology at California State University, Fresno, to adopt standards for the installation of graywater systems. This bill would require the DWR to adopt standards for the installation, construction, or alteration of graywater systems, allow cities or counties to construct, install, or alter graywater systems that comply with the DWR's standards, and declare that in adopting the standards the DWR shall achieve the promotion of graywater systems while ensuring reasonable protection of water quality in accordance with existing law.

**FISCAL SUMMARY**

Because this bill makes statutory clarifications that are currently incorporated in existing standards and regulations, Finance estimates the fiscal impact of this bill on the DWR to be minor and absorbable.

**COMMENTS**

Finance opposes this bill as it is unnecessary. Existing statute allows the DWR to revise the standards as needed. The current graywater standards, adopted by the Building Standards Commission as Appendix G, are found in the California Code of Regulations, Title 24, Part 5, and state that the Appendix shall apply to the construction, installation, alteration and repair of graywater systems for subsurface landscape irrigation. Since the existing graywater standards include not only installation but construction, alteration, and repair of graywater systems, and since the standards can be revised as needed, this bill is unnecessary.

Graywater is defined as untreated waste water which has not come into contact with toilet waste, including but not limited to, water from bathtubs, showers, bathroom wash basins, clothes washing machines, and laundry tubs. It does not include waste water from kitchen sinks, photo lab sinks, dishwashers, or laundry water from soiled diapers.

Code/Department Agency or Revenue Type	SO	(Fiscal Impact by Fiscal Year)							Fund Code		
		(Dollars in Thousands)									
		LA	CO	PROP	FC	2007-2008	FC	2008-2009		FC	2009-2010
3860/Water Res	SO	No									0001

Analyst/Principal (0631) M. Almy	Date	Program Budget Manager Karen Finn	Date
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Department Deputy Director	Date
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Governor's Office:	By:	Date:	Position Approved _____
			Position Disapproved _____

**BILL ANALYSIS** Form DF-43 (Rev 03/95 Buff)