

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 13, 2009

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2009—10 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 268

Introduced by Assembly Member Gaines
(Principal coauthors: Assembly Members Logue and Nielsen)
(Coauthors: Assembly Members *Anderson, Bill Berryhill, Conway,*
Cook, DeVore, Garrick, Gilmore, Harkey, Jeffries, and Niello
***Knight, Niello, and Villines*)**
(Coauthors: Senators Benoit and Cox)

February 11, 2009

An act to repeal Chapter 4.5 (commencing with Section 13290) of Division 7 of the Water Code, relating to water quality.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 268, as amended, Gaines. Onsite sewage treatment systems.

Existing law, the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, on or before January 1, 2004, requires the State Water Resources Control Board, in consultation with others, to adopt regulations or standards for the permitting and operation of specified onsite sewage treatment systems. The act requires the board to apply those regulations or standards to those systems commencing 6 months after their adoption.

This bill would repeal those provisions.

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

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

1 **SECTION 1.** *The Legislature finds and declares all of the*
2 *following:*

1 (a) *The onsite sewage treatment system regulatory program*
2 *will substantially increase the costs incurred for onsite sewage*
3 *treatment systems, with annual cost increases estimated to range*
4 *from \$287 million to \$339.7 million, and cumulative costs projected*
5 *to range from \$1.4 billion to \$1.7 billion higher, over the five-year*
6 *period from 2009 to 2013. This is an estimated cost increase of*
7 *43 percent to 53 percent.*

8 (b) *Households are projected to incur the largest share of these*
9 *increased costs, but businesses are projected to experience a larger*
10 *percentage increase in costs, with costs increasing by more than*
11 *800 percent over this period.*

12 (c) *The benefits of the onsite sewage treatment system regulatory*
13 *program are not worth the cost.*

14 ~~SECTION 1.~~

15 ~~SEC. 2.~~ Chapter 4.5 (commencing with Section 13290) of
16 Division 7 of the Water Code is repealed.