

109TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 4798

To facilitate remediation of perchlorate contamination in water sources in the State of California, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 16, 2006

Mr. POMBO introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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## A BILL

To facilitate remediation of perchlorate contamination in water sources in the State of California, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “California Perchlorate  
5       Contamination Remediation Act”.

6       **SEC. 2. PURPOSES.**

7       The purposes of this Act are—

1           (1) to provide grants for remediation of per-  
2           chlorate contamination of water sources and supplies  
3           (including wellheads) in the State;

4           (2) to provide grants for research and develop-  
5           ment of perchlorate remediation technologies; and

6           (3) to express the sense of Congress that the  
7           Administrator should establish a national drinking  
8           water standard for perchlorate.

9   **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

10       In this Act:

11           (1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Adminis-  
12           trator” means the Administrator of the Environ-  
13           mental Protection Agency.

14           (2) CALIFORNIA WATER AUTHORITY.—The  
15           term “California water authority” means a public  
16           water district, public water utility, public water plan-  
17           ning agency, municipality, or Indian tribe that is—

18                   (A) located in a region identified under  
19                   section 4(b)(3)(B); and

20                   (B) in operation as of the date of enact-  
21                   ment of this Act.

22           (3) FUND.—The term “Fund” means the Cali-  
23           fornia Perchlorate Cleanup Fund established by sec-  
24           tion 4(a)(1).

1 (4) STATE.—The term “State” means the State  
2 of California.

3 **SEC. 4. CALIFORNIA PERCHLORATE REMEDIATION**  
4 **GRANTS.**

5 (a) PERCHLORATE CLEANUP FUND.—

6 (1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in  
7 the Treasury of the United States a fund, to be  
8 known as the “California Perchlorate Cleanup  
9 Fund”, consisting of—

10 (A) any amount appropriated to the Fund  
11 under section 7; and

12 (B) any interest earned on investment of  
13 amounts in the Fund under paragraph (3).

14 (2) EXPENDITURES FROM FUND.—

15 (A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subpara-  
16 graph (B), on receipt of a request by the Ad-  
17 ministrator, the Secretary of the Treasury shall  
18 transfer to the Administrator such amounts as  
19 the Administrator determines to be necessary to  
20 provide grants under subsections (b) and (c).

21 (B) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—An  
22 amount not to exceed 0.4 percent of the  
23 amounts in the Fund may be used to pay the  
24 administrative expenses necessary to carry out  
25 this subsection.

1 (3) INVESTMENT OF AMOUNTS.—

2 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the  
3 Treasury shall invest such portion of the Fund  
4 as is not, in the judgment of the Secretary of  
5 the Treasury, required to meet current with-  
6 drawals.

7 (B) INTEREST-BEARING OBLIGATIONS.—  
8 Investments may be made only in interest-bear-  
9 ing obligations of the United States.

10 (C) ACQUISITION OF OBLIGATIONS.—For  
11 the purpose of investments under subparagraph  
12 (A), obligations may be acquired—

13 (i) on original issue at the issue price;

14 or

15 (ii) by purchase of outstanding obliga-  
16 tions at the market price.

17 (D) SALE OF OBLIGATIONS.—Any obliga-  
18 tion acquired by the Fund may be sold by the  
19 Secretary of the Treasury at the market price.

20 (E) CREDITS TO FUND.—The interest on,  
21 and the proceeds from the sale or redemption  
22 of, any obligations held in the Fund shall be  
23 credited to and form a part of the Fund.

24 (b) CLEANUP GRANTS.—

1           (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (3),  
2           the Administrator shall provide grants to California  
3           water authorities, the total amount of which shall  
4           not exceed \$50,000,000, to pay the Federal share of  
5           the cost of activities relating to cleanup of water  
6           sources and supplies (including wellheads) in the  
7           State that are contaminated by perchlorate.

8           (2) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of  
9           the cost of an activity described in paragraph (1)  
10          shall not exceed 50 percent.

11          (3) ELIGIBILITY; PRIORITY.—

12                (A) ELIGIBILITY.—A California water au-  
13                thority that the Administrator determines to be  
14                responsible for perchlorate contamination shall  
15                not be eligible to receive a grant under this sub-  
16                section.

17                (B) PRIORITY.—In providing grants under  
18                this subsection, the Administrator shall give  
19                priority to an activity described in paragraph  
20                (1) that is carried out in 1 or more of the fol-  
21                lowing regions in the State:

22                       (i) The Santa Clara Valley.

23                       (ii) A region within the natural water-  
24                       shed of the Santa Ana River.

25                       (iii) The San Gabriel Valley.

1 (iv) Sacramento County.

2 (v) Any other region that has a dam-  
3 aged water source as a result of per-  
4 chlorate contamination, as determined by  
5 the Administrator.

6 (c) RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT GRANTS.—

7 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall pro-  
8 vide grants, the total amount of which shall not ex-  
9 ceed \$8,000,000, to qualified non-Federal entities  
10 (as determined by the Administrator) for use in car-  
11 rying out research and development of perchlorate  
12 remediation technologies.

13 (2) MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF GRANT.—The  
14 amount of a grant provided under paragraph (1)  
15 shall not exceed \$1,000,000.

16 **SEC. 5. EFFECT OF ACT.**

17 Nothing in this Act affects any authority or program  
18 of a Federal or State agency in existence on the date of  
19 enactment of this Act.

20 **SEC. 6. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

21 It is the sense of Congress that the Administrator  
22 should establish a national drinking water standard for  
23 perchlorate as soon as practicable after the date of enact-  
24 ment of this Act.

1 **SEC. 7. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

2       There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out  
3 this Act \$58,000,000, to remain available until expended.

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