

FULL TEXT OF MEASURE J94
GOLETA WATER DISTRICT

AN AMENDMENT TO THE SAFE WATER
SUPPLIES ORDINANCE

THE PEOPLE OF THE GOLETA WATER DISTRICT,
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA, STATE OF
CALIFORNIA, DO ORDAIN AND ENACT THE
FOLLOWING ORDINANCE WHICH SHALL BE AN
AMENDMENT TO THE SAFE WATER SUPPLIES
ORDINANCE:

RECITALS:

WHEREAS, the voters of the Goleta Water District
("District") enacted the SAFE Water Supplies Ordinance
("SAFE") in June 1991 authorizing the participation by
the District in the State Water Project and providing for
the bond financing to develop the Project Facilities
necessary for delivery of that water to the District; and

WHEREAS, the District is now a member of the Central
Coast Water Authority, the members of which are
cooperating collectively to develop the Project Facilities
which are now under construction; and

WHEREAS, SAFE provides for the creation of a Drought
Buffer of water stored in the Goleta groundwater basin to
protect against future drought emergencies and a Water
Supply Distribution Plan to protect the District's water
supplies against new demands until deliveries from the
State Water Project are available; and

WHEREAS, this proposed amendment to SAFE maintains
all the provisions regarding the protection of water
supplies provided by the Drought Buffer and the Water
Supply Distribution Plan; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to provisions of the judgment in the
lawsuit known as Wright v. Goleta Water District, the
District is required to develop a Water Plan to provide the
necessary water supplies to achieve a balance between
supply and demand for water within the District. The
District's Water Plan is based on continuing to use the
maximum amount of water available from the Cachuma
Project; prudent management of the Goleta groundwater
basin; use of the newly constructed wastewater
reclamation project to replace existing use of potable
water for turf irrigation; a continuing water conservation
planning effort; participation in the State Water Project;
and the necessary level of commitment to a desalinated
seawater project. As a result of the long-term water
supply deficit in the District, the District has been
operating under a water connection moratorium for over
twenty years. Once fully implemented the District's
Water Plan should provide adequate supplies to meet
long-term water demand in the District; and

WHEREAS, the forty year water service contract with the
United States Bureau of Reclamation for delivery of water
from the Cachuma Project will expire in May 1995.
Negotiations are currently under way to renew that
contract. The Bureau of Reclamation has required that the
Cachuma Project be subjected to an environmental review
process which is now being undertaken. It appears likely
that the District's yield from the Cachuma Project after
contract renewal will be less than the current yield as a
result of the dedication of water for environmental
enhancement purposes on the lower Santa Ynez River; and

WHEREAS, the Southern California Water Company is a
Santa Barbara County water purveyor which currently
holds rights to an entitlement to 3,000 acre feet per year of
water from the State Water Project and has given notice of
its intent to sell 2,500 acre feet of that entitlement. The
Goleta Water District has identified itself as a potential
purchaser of the entitlement. It is the intent of this
Ordinance to authorize the acquisition and use of that
entitlement; and

WHEREAS, the District estimates the annual cost of the
Southern California Water Company entitlement to be
\$500 per acre foot of water delivered to the District. The
entitlement acquisition is intended to reduce the long-term
costs of water to the District and its customers in that
alternative supplies that would be available, and necessary
to meet the District's long-term demand would be more
expensive than the water available from Southern
California Water Company. The District's cost analysis of
the acquisition is available at the District office.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE FOLLOWING ORDINANCE
IS ENACTED INTO LAW:

1. The District is authorized to acquire an additional
entitlement to the State Water Project in an amount of
up to 2,500 acre feet per year, which is currently
available from the Southern California Water
Company. This entitlement will supplement the 4,500
acre feet per year authorized by the voters in originally
adopting the SAFE Water Supplies Ordinance. This
authorization shall provide for the payment of all costs
of the acquisition and use of any additional entitlement
acquired. Due to the controversy concerning the
physical ability of the State Water Project to deliver its
full contractual commitments, the District shall plan
for the delivery of 3,800 acre feet per year of water as
the amount of firm average long-term yield. The
District's total State Water Project entitlement
includes the basic entitlement of 4,500 acre feet per
year, the District's share of the drought buffer held by
the Central Coast Water Authority and the entitlement
acquired pursuant to this authorization. Any excess
water actually delivered over 3,800 acre feet per year

shall be stored in the Goleta groundwater Central basin until the basin is replenished to its 1972 level, for use during drought conditions.

2. Enactment of this Ordinance shall comply with all applicable law, including the California Environmental Quality Act.
3. If adopted, this Ordinance shall be an amendment to the SAFE Water Supplies Ordinance adopted by the electorate in June, 1991, which amended and superseded the Responsible Water Policy Ordinance, originally adopted by the electorate in 1973. Paragraph 1 of this Ordinance shall amend and fully supersede paragraph 6 of the SAFE Water Supplies Ordinance. All other provisions of the SAFE Ordinance shall remain in full force and effect. If adopted, this Ordinance may not be modified except pursuant to a vote of the electorate of the District.
4. This Ordinance shall be liberally construed and applied in order to fully promote its underlying purposes. If any word, sentence, paragraph or section of this Ordinance is determined to be unenforceable by a court of law, it is the intention of the District that the remainder of the Ordinance shall be enforced.