

**Title** THE CALIFORNIA WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT BOND ACT  
**Year/Election** 1960 general  
**Proposition type** bond (leg)  
**Popular vote** Yes: 3,008,328 (51.5%); No: 2,834,384 (48.5%)  
**Pass/Fail** Pass  
**Summary** This act provides for a bond issue of one billion, seven hundred fifty million dollars (\$1,750,000,000) to be used by the Department of Water Resources for the development of the water resources of the State.

**For** **Argument in Favor of California Water Resources Development Bond Act**

Your vote on this measure will decide whether California will continue to prosper.

This Act, if approved, will launch the statewide water development program which will meet present and future demands of all areas of California. The program will not be a burden on the taxpayer; no new state taxes are involved; the bonds are repaid from project revenues, through the sale of water and power. In other words, it will pay for itself. The bonds will be used over a period of many years and will involve an approximate annual expenditure averaging only \$75 million, as compared, for example with \$600 million a year we spend on highways.

Existing facilities for furnishing water for California's needs will soon be exhausted because of our rapid population growth and industrial and agricultural expansion. We now face a further critical loss in the Colorado River supply. Without the projects made possible by this Act, we face a major water crisis. We can stand no more delay.

If we fail to act now to provide new sources of water, land development in the great San Joaquin Valley will slow to a halt by 1965 and the return of cultivated areas to wasteland will begin. In southern California, the existing sources of water which have nourished its tremendous expansion will reach capacity by 1970 and further development must wholly cease. In northern California desperately needed flood control and water supplies for many local areas will be denied.

This Act will assure construction funds for new water development facilities to meet California's requirements now and in the future. No area will be deprived of water to meet the needs of another. Nor will any area be asked to pay for water delivered to another.

To meet questions which concerned, southern California, the bonds will finance completion of all facilities needed, as described in the Act. Contracts for delivery of water may not be altered by the Legislature. The tap will be open, and no amount of political maneuvering can shut it off.

Under this Act the water rights of northern California will remain securely protected. In addition, sufficient money is provided for construction of local projects to meet the pressing needs for flood control, recreation and water deliveries in the north.

A much needed drainage system and water supply will be provided in the San Joaquin Valley.

Construction here authorized will provide thousands of jobs. And the program will nourish tremendous industrial and farm and urban expansion which will develop an ever-growing source of employment and economic prosperity for Californians.

Our Legislature has appropriated millions of dollars for work in preparation, and construction is now underway. It would be tragic if this impressive start toward solution of our water problems were now abandoned.

If we fail to act now to insure completion of this constructive program, serious existing water shortages will only get worse. The success of our State is at stake. Vote "Yes" for water for people, for progress, for prosperity!