

# **\$687 mil. drought relief proposal for Calif.**

**By Laurel Rosenhall, Sacramento Bee**

Gov. Jerry Brown and legislative leaders on Wednesday unveiled a proposal to spend roughly \$687 million to alleviate the impacts of California's drought, including efforts to clean and recycle water, improve conservation, capture rain, and give emergency food and housing assistance to farmworkers who will be out of work because their fields are fallow.

"The best way to make our communities more resilient to drought is to invest in projects that get the most out of every drop of water," said Senate leader Darrell Steinberg, who joined the governor and Assembly Speaker John A. Pérez in announcing the plan at the state's Office of Emergency Services at Mather Field.

Money for the proposal would largely come from water and flood-prevention bonds voters approved in 2006, which means lawmakers don't have to wait for the annual budget process to approve spending the money. Steinberg and Pérez said they thought the legislation could go through in the next couple of weeks.

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