



Assembly Member Harper Defies Party in Vote on Salton Sea Restoration Bill

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11:35 PM PST

In California on June 27th, Assembly Standing Committee on Water, Parks, and Wildlife met and discussed the bill SB615 [1].

When it came time to vote

Matthew Harper, Republican Assembly member representing district 74, chose to vote against the majority of the Republican party. Most Republicans voted for the bill.

Total Meeting Length
26 minute(s), 20 second(s)

Videos



The official title of SB615 is rather long but starts with "An act to amend Sections 2930 and 2940 of, to amend the heading of Chapter 13 (commencing with Section 2930) of Division 3 of, and to add Section 2942. 1 to, the Fish and Game Code, relating to the Sal. " [2].

Below is a brief summary of the discussion and its events.

“ Got to learn a little bit of the history and the hydrology of the area and what actually causes the Salton Sea to be in the condition that it’s in, so I will be supporting your bill today.

-- Devon Mathis, Republican
Assembly member representing
district 26

The topic of salton sea restoration was discussed in the bill [3].

The bill was presented by

Ben Hueso, Democratic Senate member representing district 40 [4].

The presentation was particularly lengthy [5]. Eduardo Garcia, Democratic Assembly member representing district 56 , was the Chair of this committee meeting [6].

Most of the audience was positive about the measure [7].

During the discussion, a particluar back-and-forth conversation occurred between

Rudy Salas, Democratic Assembly member representing district 32 , and Senator Hueso [8].

After the bill was presented and discussed, the committee proceeded to voting on the motion "Do pass and be re-referred to the Committee on [Appropriations]".

14 legislators voted in favor, one legislator voted against. No one abstained. Among the Democratic committee members, all voted for the motion. 80% of Republican committee members voted in favor of the motion.

Ultimately, the vote regarding the motion "Do pass and be re-referred to the Committee on [Appropriations]" for bill SB615 passed.

NOTES:

[1] Extracted from Digital Democracy records

[2] Extracted from Digital Democracy records

[3] Extracted from Digital Democracy Records

[4] The bill presenter is defined by the person having the longest speech in the introduction part of the discussion.

[5] The introduction is considered to be longer than usual if it goes over the 548 words threshold. The threshold has been calculated with the average length and standard deviation of numerous introductions' length.

[6] Extracted from Digital Democracy Records

[7] The average alignment is taken from the Digital Democracy Database values for all the speakers.

[8] The back-and-forth is detected automatically between two people exchanging utterances between each other for more than 4 times.

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