

# AB 2099 (Stone): Safe Drinking Water for Low-Income Families

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## Opportunity

Water in the homes of more than 1 million Californians repeatedly failed tests for safe drinking in 2014. This situation is especially dire for the tens of thousands of affected households that are living at or near the poverty line. For these Californians, having to purchase drinking water puts already limited household budgets – including food budgets -- under additional strain. **An interim, supplemental benefit for drinking water would help ensure that inadequate, unsafe water systems do not exacerbate hunger or food insecurity.**

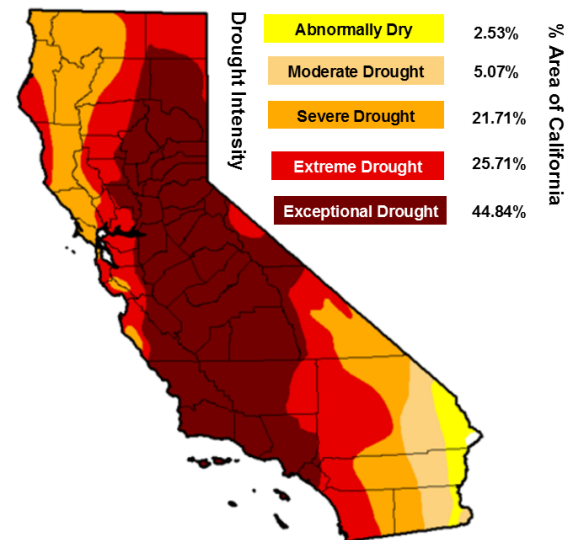
## Legislative Action

- ➔ AB 2099 intends to leverage the State's Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) system to deliver interim, supplemental drinking water benefits to low-income Californians with inadequate access to safe drinking water.

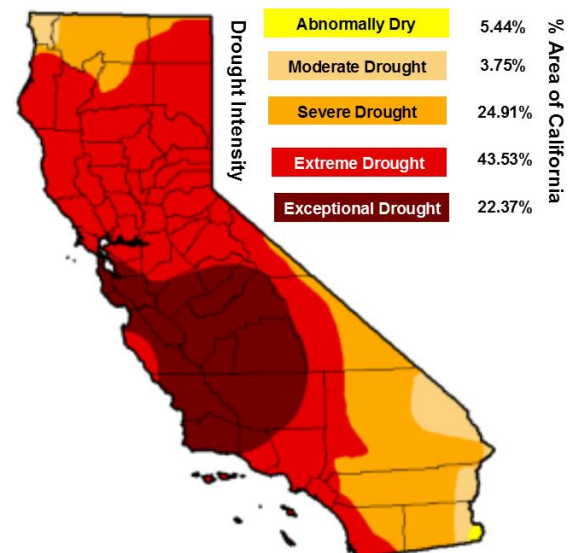
## Why This Matters

Families in poverty cannot wait for long-term solutions to state's water crisis. **Without affordable access to safe water, low-income communities in California will continue to bear a disproportionate burden of this drought.** This issue affects families across the state and is felt most acutely in the Central Valley and Sierra Foothills, where residents face persistent economic hardship. Access to safe drinking water is a fundamental human right. All Californians should have access to the basic resources necessary to live healthy, productive lives.

December 2015



March 2014



Images: National Drought Mitigation Center.  
December 1, 2015 | March 14, 2015.

For more than 20 years, CFPA has been the state's trusted food policy advocacy organization dedicated to increasing low-income Californians' access to healthy food at home, at school, and throughout entire communities. CFPA's advocacy agenda draws on the anti-hunger, nutrition, and health movements. Working as both a policy leader and supportive policy ally, CFPA continues to build on its long history of success.