

## Community Comment 1/6/2014

By Jon Sapper  
New Laws for 2014

This is Jon Sapper for Community Comment.

It's 2014. I trust you made New Year's resolutions and since only one week has passed, you have a fifty percent chance you haven't broken them.

The New Year does bring hope, excitement and commitment to live life differently like swimming more rivers, climbing more mountains, eating more ice cream and less prunes. We'll lose weight and exercise more. To help us with our resolutions, our legislature and Governor have brought us new laws,..... lots of laws,..... lots and lots of laws.

One of the new ones will prevent the California Department of Fish and Wildlife from killing mountain lions that venture into populated areas. The Department is now authorized to work with rescue groups to tranquilize, capture and re-locate the cats. That's sure to work.... since these predators are very protective of their territory and the reason they're coming into populated areas is because their population is exploding. This one will be fun to watch. I hope no one gets scratched.

Another law, AB 35, is related to immigration, but the title of the law is quote "Deferred Actions for Childhood Arrivals". If you didn't read the text and just read the title, you might think it's targeting obstetricians who show up late at the hospital. I'm not sure what the deferred action might be unless you live in Oregon where one of their new laws allows you to take home the placenta after giving birth. You go ahead and make up your own punch line on that one.

AB 119 deals with new requirements for water treatment devices. Cutting through the legal mumbo jumbo it says you have to be honest when saying what the device can do. Shame that we have to legislate honesty. Once you're honest, you can put in artesian water, deionized water, demineralized water, distilled water, flavored water, mineral water, potable water, purified water, reverse osmosis water, sterile water, well water, spring water or sparkling bottled water. What about just a glass of water.

Or, how about bottled water, that good ole honest mountain spring water? That's unless you drank Acquifina prior to 2007 where consumers thought the company got the water from a pristine mountain spring called PWS, which was printed on the bottle. PWS stands for Public Water Source or city tap water. Now they have to spell it out.

It's frustrating to think that some of these laws are passed to address honesty or lapses in common sense,..... all except the mountain lion one. That's just plain crazy.

Have a great 2014.

This has been Jon Sapper for Community Comment.