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CALIFORNIA

Legislator targets incandescent bulbs

SACRAMENTO — How many people does it take to change a light bulb? In California, the answer could be a majority of the Legislature. The electricitywasting incandescent bulb would be banned — replaced by energy efficient compact fluorescents — under a bill that Assemblyman Lloyd Levine plans to introduce. He says the spiral light sources are so efficient that consumers should be forced to use them. The compact bulbs use one-fourth the electricity spent in an equivalent incandescent. "Incandescent light bulbs were first developed almost 125 years ago, and since that time they have undergone no major modifications," Levine, a Democrat from Los Angeles, said in a news release Tuesday. "It's time to take a step forward." The bulb bill was not yet on the legislative calendar. Last year, the Legislature passed a Levine bill that requires large supermarkets to recycle plastic bags. Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger signed that bill but has not taken a position on the light bulb proposal.