

AMENDED IN SENATE AUGUST 14, 2008

AMENDED IN SENATE AUGUST 12, 2008

AMENDED IN SENATE JULY 1, 2008

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 12, 2008

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 1, 2008

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2007—08 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2309

Introduced by Assembly Member DeSaulnier
(Coauthor: Senator Cox)

February 21, 2008

An act to add Chapter 6.1 (commencing with Section 2790.1) to Part 2 of Division 1 of the Public Utilities Code, relating to energy conservation.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2309, as amended, DeSaulnier. Energy conservation: residential energy efficiency audit.

Existing law requires the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to permit electric and gas corporations to institute a home insulation assistance and financing program for its residential customers. The PUC is required to require electric and gas corporations to perform specified home weatherization services for low-income customers.

This bill would require the PUC to determine whether to require electrical corporations to provide in-home owner-requested energy efficiency audits for owner-occupied residential buildings built before January 1, 2006. The PUC would be required, in making its

determination, to consider whether the benefits of providing in-home audits exceed the costs of providing those audits. Upon the completion of the owner-occupied residential energy audit, the electric corporation would be required to make recommendations to the owner regarding cost-effective measures that the owner could take to increase the residential building's energy efficiency. The bill would require the PUC to develop a procedure to determine which recommendations have been completed by an owner receiving an energy efficiency audit. The PUC, in consultation with the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission (Energy Commission), would be required to prioritize energy efficiency measures. The PUC would be required to provide a report to the Legislature and to the Energy Commission containing specified information.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the
2 following:
- 3 (a) The California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006
4 (Division 25.5 (commencing with Section 38500) of the Health
5 and Safety Code) requires the State Air Resources Board to design
6 emissions reduction measures in a manner that minimizes costs
7 and maximizes benefits for California's economy, maximizes
8 additional environmental and economic cobenefits for California,
9 and complements the state's efforts to improve air quality.
- 10 (b) To achieve the goals of the California Global Warming
11 Solutions Act of 2006, every opportunity for greenhouse gas
12 emissions must be explored.
- 13 (c) California's aggressive energy efficiency requirements for
14 new construction have made new homes the most efficient in the
15 world with a carbon footprint significantly below 1990 emissions
16 levels.
- 17 (d) There exist significant opportunities for cost-effective energy
18 efficiency improvements from the more than 12 million existing
19 residential structures.
- 20 (e) Modest investments in energy savings and climate friendly
21 improvement from existing homes can contribute significantly

1 towards meeting the goals of the California Global Warming
2 Solutions Act of 2006.

3 SEC. 2. Chapter 6.1 (commencing with Section 2790.1) is
4 added to Part 2 of Division 1 of the Public Utilities Code, to read:

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CHAPTER 6.1. RESIDENTIAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY AUDITS

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2790.1. (a) By January 1, 2010, the commission shall determine whether to require electrical corporations to provide in-home owner-requested energy efficiency audits for owner-occupied residential buildings constructed prior to January 1, 2006. In making its determination, the commission shall consider whether the benefits of providing in-home audits exceed the costs of providing those audits.

(b) If the commission requires the provision of in-home energy efficiency audits in accordance with subdivision (a), the commission shall, consistent with Sections 25402 and 25942 of the Public Resources Code and in consultation with the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission, prioritize energy efficiency measures, giving the highest priority to measures that are cost effective and provide the greatest amount of energy savings.

(c) Upon completion of an owner-occupied residential energy efficiency audit, the electric corporation shall make recommendations to the owner regarding what cost-effective measures may be taken by the owner to increase the residential building's energy efficiency and conservation activities.

(d) The commission shall develop a procedure to determine which recommendations made pursuant to subdivision (c) have been completed by an owner receiving an energy efficiency audit.

(e) The commission shall provide reports to the Legislature and the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission that detail the number of owner-occupied residential buildings that took advantage of the audit program, the amount of energy savings that resulted by applying energy efficiency recommendations, the amount of energy savings that would result from all recommendations of the audits being implemented, and the energy savings that result from emerging ~~load-based control~~ *energy efficiency* technologies. The commission may satisfy the requirements of this subdivision by providing the information

- 1 required by this subdivision in an evaluation, verification, and
- 2 measurement of energy efficiency report, submitted every three
- 3 years to the Legislature.

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