

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 21, 2008

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2007—08 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2769

Introduced by Assembly Member Levine

February 22, 2008

An act to add Section 1724 of the Civil Code, relating to ~~energy~~ digital television.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2769, as amended, Levine. ~~Energy efficiency: air-conditioners.~~ *Digital television.*

Existing federal law requires full-power television broadcast stations in the United States to broadcast only in digital after February 17, 2009.

This bill would require retailers who sell electronics to post a notice regarding the transition to digital television broadcasts near the entrance to the store and to make available to consumers a brochure containing specified information regarding the transition to digital broadcasts.

~~Existing law requires the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission to investigate options and develop a plan to improve the energy efficiency of, and to decrease the peak electricity demand of, air-conditioners in the state. Existing law requires the commission, on or before January 1, 2008, to prepare and submit to the Legislature a report on that plan.~~

~~This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation to implement recommendations in the report.~~

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.
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) On February 17, 2009, all full-power broadcast television*
 4 *stations in the United States will begin to broadcast only in digital.*
 5 *For people who already own a digital television or subscribe to*
 6 *cable, satellite, or other pay service, the transition will have little*
 7 *or no impact.*

8 *(b) However, more than 13 million United States households*
 9 *rely on over-the-air broadcast on their analog television sets*
 10 *exclusively. These people tend to rely heavily on television to keep*
 11 *them informed in times of emergency and cannot afford to lose*
 12 *their connection to broadcast television.*

13 *(c) It is the responsibility of the Legislature to ensure that*
 14 *households that rely solely on over-the-air analog television*
 15 *broadcast for their television viewing understand that the transition*
 16 *will occur on February 17, 2009.*

17 *SEC. 2. Section 1724 is added to the Civil Code, to read:*

18 *1724. (a) For purposes of this section, “retailer” means an*
 19 *establishment that sells electronics, including, but not limited to,*
 20 *televisions, to a consumer.*

21 *(b) Each retailer in the state of California shall post a notice*
 22 *near the store entrance that is clear, conspicuous, and in legible*
 23 *type from a distance of 10 feet containing the following*
 24 *information:*

25
 26 *(1) Will Your TV Work After February 17, 2009? Prepare*
 27 *for the digital transition.*

28 *(2) Know Your Options.*

29 *(A) Buy a converter box that will plug into your analog TV.*

30 *(B) Buy a TV with a digital tuner.*

31 *(C) Connect your analog TV to cable, satellite, or other pay*
 32 *service.*

33 *(3) For more information call 1-888-DTV-2009*
 34 *(1-888-388-2009) or 1-877-530-2634 (TTY) or visit*
 35 *www.DTV2009.gov.*

36

1 (c) Each retailer shall make available to the consumer upon
2 request a brochure that at a minimum contains the following
3 information:

4
5 (1) An important change in broadcasting is coming in
6 February 2009. Television broadcasting is moving from an
7 old standard – known as “analog” – to a new standard, called
8 “digital.” After February 17, 2009, all television broadcasts
9 will be digital. After February 17, 2009, all analog televisions
10 getting programming “over the air” through an antenna will
11 need to be plugged into a special television converter to
12 receive digital broadcasts. Before you buy a new TV, consider
13 these options:

14 (A) Keep your TV and buy a converter. If you have an analog
15 television, you will need a digital-to-analog converter box to
16 continue to watch broadcast television on that set. This
17 converter box will also enable you to see any additional
18 multicast programming that your local stations are offering.

19 (B) Buy a digital television.

20 (C) Hook up your television to cable, satellite, or other pay
21 television service.

22 After February 17, 2009, all television broadcasts will be
23 digital. Prepare for the digital transition. For more
24 information, call the FCC at 1-888-225-5322 (TTY:
25 1-888-835-5322) or visit their DTV Web site at www.dtv.gov.

26
27 (2) The location of the nearest recycling facility that accepts
28 electronic waste.

29 ~~SECTION 1. It is the intent of the Legislature to enact~~
30 ~~legislation to improve the energy efficiency of, and to decrease~~
31 ~~the peak electricity demand of, air-conditioners in the state by~~
32 ~~implementing the legislative recommendation contained in the~~
33 ~~report prepared by the State Energy Resources Conservation and~~
34 ~~Development Commission pursuant to Chapter 734 of the Statutes~~
35 ~~of 2006.~~

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