

Introduced by Senator KehoeFebruary 22, 2008

An act to amend Section 740.3 of the Public Utilities Code, relating to energy.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1737, as introduced, Kehoe. Electric and gas low-emission vehicles.

Under existing law, the Public Utilities Commission has regulatory authority over public utilities, including electrical corporations and gas corporations, as defined. Existing law requires the commission, in cooperation with the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission, the State Air Resources Board, air quality management districts and air pollution control districts, electrical and gas corporations, and the motor vehicle industry, to evaluate and implement policies to promote the development of equipment and infrastructure needed to facilitate the use of electric power and natural gas to fuel low-emission vehicles. The commission is required to ensure that the costs and expenses of any authorized programs are not passed through to electric or gas ratepayers unless the commission finds and determines that those programs are in the ratepayers' interest.

This bill would make technical and nonsubstantive revisions to the requirements placed upon the commission to evaluate and implement policies to promote the development of equipment and infrastructure needed to facilitate the use of electricity and natural gas to power low-emission vehicles.

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. Section 740.3 of the Public Utilities Code is
2 amended to read:

3 740.3. (a) The commission, in cooperation with the State
4 Energy Conservation and Development Commission, the State Air
5 Resources Board, air quality management districts and air pollution
6 control districts, ~~regulated electrical and corporations,~~ gas
7 corporations, and the motor vehicle industry, shall evaluate and
8 implement policies to promote the development of equipment and
9 infrastructure needed to facilitate the use of ~~electric power~~
10 *electricity* and natural gas to ~~fuel power~~ low-emission vehicles.

11 Policies to be considered shall include both of the following:

12 (1) The sale-for-resale and the rate-basing of low-emission
13 vehicles and supporting equipment, such as batteries for electric
14 vehicles and compressor stations for natural gas fueled vehicles.

15 (2) The development of statewide standards for electric vehicle
16 charger connections and compressed natural gas vehicle fueling
17 connections, including installation procedures and technical
18 assistance to installers.

19 (b) The commission shall hold public hearings as part of its
20 effort to evaluate and implement the new policies considered in
21 subdivision (a), and shall provide a progress report to the
22 Legislature by January 30, ~~1993, and every two years thereafter~~
23 *of eacy odd year*, concerning policies on rates, equipment, and
24 infrastructure implemented by the commission and other state
25 agencies, federal and local governmental agencies, and private
26 industry to facilitate the use of ~~electric power~~ *electricity* and natural
27 gas to ~~fuel power~~ low-emission vehicles.

28 (c) The commission's policies authorizing ~~utilities~~ *electrical*
29 *corporations and gas corporations* to develop equipment or
30 infrastructure needed for electric-powered and natural gas-fueled
31 low-emission vehicles shall ensure that the costs and expenses of
32 those programs are not passed through to electric or gas ratepayers
33 unless the commission finds and determines that those programs
34 are in the ratepayers' interest. The commission's policies shall
35 also ensure that utilities do not unfairly compete with nonutility
36 enterprises.

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