

Introduced by Senator KehoeFebruary 19, 2010

An act to add Section 740.12 to the Public Utilities Code, relating to electric vehicles.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1455, as introduced, Kehoe. Electric vehicles: electric vehicle owner education handbook.

Under existing law, the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) has regulatory authority over public utilities, including electrical corporations and gas corporations, as defined. Existing law requires the PUC, in cooperation with the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission (Energy Commission), the State Air Resources Board (state 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.

Existing law requires the PUC, in consultation with the Energy Commission, the state board, electrical corporations, and the motor vehicle industry, to evaluate policies to develop infrastructure sufficient to overcome any barriers to the widespread deployment and use of plug-in hybrid and electric vehicles and, by July 1, 2011, to adopt rules that address related matters.

This bill would require, by January 1, 2013, the PUC, in consultation with the Energy Commission, electrical corporations, the motor vehicle industry, and the California Electric Transportation Coalition, to develop an electric vehicle owner handbook containing specified information.

Under existing law, a violation of the Public Utilities Act or any order, decision, rule, direction, demand, or requirement of the commission is a crime.

Because the provisions of this bill are within the act and require action by the commission to implement its requirements, a violation of these provisions would impose a state-mandated local program by creating a new crime.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

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

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 740.12 is added to the Public Utilities
2 Code, to read:

3 740.12. (a) By January 1, 2013, the commission, in
4 consultation with the State Energy Conservation and Development
5 Commission, electrical corporations, the motor vehicle industry,
6 and the California Electric Transportation Coalition, shall develop
7 an electric vehicle owner education handbook.

8 (b) The handbook shall contain information that does all of the
9 following:

10 (1) Notifies an owner of an electric vehicle about the necessary
11 energy requirements for safely using an electric vehicle charging
12 device from a garage or an in-home outlet, by means of an attached
13 or detached dwelling unit that provides electricity.

14 (2) Notifies an owner of an electric vehicle who should be
15 contacted to ensure that electrical features at the charging location
16 conform to any applicable code.

17 (3) Provides examples of hazards to avoid when charging an
18 electric vehicle and examples of a safe charging environment.

19 SEC. 2. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to
20 Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because
21 the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school
22 district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or
23 infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty

1 for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of
2 the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within
3 the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California
4 Constitution.

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