

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 28, 2014

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2013–14 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2465

Introduced by Assembly Member Chesbro

February 21, 2014

An act ~~relating to taxation~~ *add Section 4495 to the Public Resources Code, relating to forestry.*

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2465, as amended, Chesbro. ~~Tax benefits.~~ *Burning of lands: private burns.*

Existing law authorizes any person, firm, or corporation, or any combination thereof, that owns or controls brush-covered land within a state responsibility area to apply to the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection for permission to burn the brush from the land. Existing law requires the department to provide advisory service to applicants for burn permits as to the precautions to be taken by the applicant to prevent damage to the property of others by reason of the prescribed burning, and to provide standby fire protection, as available.

This bill would require the department, by July 1, 2015, in consultation with the State Air Resources Board and local air districts, to, among other things, develop a page on the department's Internet Web site that provides certain information relating to prescribed burns, including information on the regulations that govern prescribed burns for forest fuel treatment.

~~Existing law imposes various taxes and allows specified credits, deductions, exclusions, and exemptions in computing those taxes.~~

~~This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that would provide tax benefits to taxpayers for the construction or~~

installation of offsite water storage facilities, in watersheds with salmon or anadromous trout species that are listed under the state or federal endangered species acts, that eliminate or significantly reduce the need for summer water diversion from a stream.

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

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 4495 is added to the Public Resources
2 Code, to read:

3 4495. To assist landowners in conducting prescribed burns
4 for the purpose of forest fuel treatment, the department, in
5 consultation with the State Air Resources Board and local air
6 districts, shall, no later than July 1, 2015, do all of the following:

7 (a) Develop a page on the department’s Internet Web site that
8 provides all of the following:

9 (1) Information on the regulations governing prescribed burns
10 for forest fuel treatment.

11 (2) Specific information about permissive burn days and no-burn
12 days.

13 (3) The uniform prescribed burn template described in
14 subdivision (b).

15 (4) Contact information for the offices at the department, State
16 Air Resources Board, and local air districts that can assist a person
17 who is interested in a prescribed burn for forest fuel treatment.

18 (5) Any other information that the department determines is
19 appropriate regarding prescribed burns for forest fuel treatment.

20 (b) Develop a uniform prescribed burn template. The template
21 shall provide assistance to a person, who is interested in
22 conducting forest fuel treatment through a prescribed burn, to do
23 all of the following:

24 (1) Use best management practices to minimize impacts to the
25 environment and public health while maximizing the fire resiliency
26 of the treated forest.

27 (2) Obtain the appropriate regulatory approval from the
28 department and local air districts.

29 ~~SECTION 1. It is the intent of the Legislature to enact~~
30 ~~legislation that would provide tax benefits to taxpayers for the~~
31 ~~construction or installation of offsite water storage facilities, in~~

1 watersheds with salmon or anadromous trout species that are listed
2 under the federal Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. Sec.
3 1531 et seq.) or the California Endangered Species Act (Chapter
4 1.5 (commencing with Section 2050) of Division 3), that eliminate
5 or significantly reduce the need for summer water diversion from
6 a stream.

O