

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 30, 2013

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 1, 2013

SENATE BILL

No. 511

Introduced by Senator Lieu

February 21, 2013

An act to add Part 6 (commencing with Section 71450) to Division 34 of the Public Resources Code, relating to natural resources.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 511, as amended, Lieu. Natural resources: climate change: grants.

Existing law establishes the Natural Resources Agency consisting of various entities, departments, and boards.

This bill would require the Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency, in coordination with the State Air Resources Board, to develop guidelines for the awarding of grants, upon appropriation by the Legislature, for projects that enhance greenhouse gas emissions avoidance and sequestration associated with natural resources, as specified.

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. Part 6 (commencing with Section 71450) is added
- 2 to Division 34 of the Public Resources Code, to read:

1 PART 6. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS AVOIDANCE
2 AND SEQUESTRATION
3

4 71450. (a) The Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency,
5 in coordination with the State Air Resources Board, shall develop
6 guidelines for the awarding of grants, upon appropriation by the
7 Legislature, for projects that enhance greenhouse gas emissions
8 avoidance and sequestration associated with natural resources.

9 (b) The guidelines developed pursuant to subdivision (a) shall
10 do all of the following:

11 ~~(1) Promote climate benefits from reducing or sequestering~~
12 ~~greenhouse gas emissions associated with reductions in~~
13 ~~transportation emissions, improvements in energy conservation or~~
14 ~~efficiency, promoting development of sustainable communities;~~
15 ~~improving the siting of environmentally sensitive distributed~~
16 ~~generation, improving regional water supply from regional water~~
17 ~~filtration and watershed enhancements, improving forest~~
18 ~~management, or increasing the urban forestry canopy.~~

19 *(1) Promote climate benefits from reducing greenhouse gas*
20 *emissions associated with transportation emissions and from*
21 *reducing or sequestering greenhouse gas emissions associated*
22 *with improvements in energy conservation or efficiency, promoting*
23 *development of sustainable communities, improving the siting of*
24 *environmentally sensitive distributed energy generation, improving*
25 *regional water supply from regional water filtration and watershed*
26 *enhancements, improving forest management, or increasing the*
27 *urban forestry canopy.*

28 ~~(2) Incentivize~~ *Provide incentives for* innovative pilot projects
29 that can act as statewide models for enhancing natural resources
30 emission reductions and sequestration from a portion of the grant
31 awards.

32 (3) Leverage; or maximize; the use of other public and private
33 funding to either improve the ~~climate value~~ *benefits to the climate*
34 of existing conservation projects or assist in the implementation
35 of conservation projects that ~~have important climate values~~ *provide*
36 *important benefits to the climate.*

37 (4) Promote investments in projects that include cobenefits,
38 including adaptation, improved water supply and quality, and
39 public health improvements.

1 (5) Ensure that appropriate funding levels will be dedicated to
2 conservation projects in disadvantaged communities.

3 (c) To minimize administration costs associated with
4 implementing this part, the Secretary of the Natural Resources
5 Agency shall use existing programs, including, but not limited to,
6 programs administered pursuant to Chapter 2 (commencing with
7 Section 4799.06) of Part 2.5 of Division 4, Chapter 3.8
8 (commencing with Section 5750) of Division 5, Division 10.4
9 (commencing with Section 10330), Chapter 3 (commencing with
10 Section 31100) of Division 21, Chapter 1 (commencing with
11 Section 32600) of Division 22.8, and Chapter 3 (commencing with
12 Section 33200) of Division 23, for competitive grants in forestry,
13 open space, sustainable agriculture, and watershed enhancements
14 to further the goals of this part. Funds also may be administered
15 pursuant to Division 22.3 (commencing with Section 32300),
16 Division 22.5 (commencing with Section 32500), Division 22.7
17 (commencing with Section 32550), Division 22.9 (commencing
18 with Section 32630), Division 23.3 (commencing with Section
19 ~~33320~~; 33300) and Division 23.5 (commencing with Section
20 33500).

21 (d) The Administrative Procedure Act (Chapter 3.5
22 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title
23 2 of the Government Code) shall not apply to the development
24 and adoption of guidelines adopted pursuant to this part.

25 (e) *The development and adoption of the guidelines pursuant*
26 *to this part shall provide for public participation.*