

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 213

Introduced by Assembly Member Ridley-Thomas

February 2, 2015

An act to add Section 25402.12 to the Public Resources Code, relating to energy.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 213, as introduced, Ridley-Thomas. Energy efficiency: light emitting diode (LED) lighting products.

Existing law requires the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission to prescribe energy efficiency standards, including standards applicable to lighting products.

This bill would prohibit the commission from adopting a color rendering index (CRI) value greater than the CRI value set forth in the United State Environmental Protection Agency Energy Star program, as of January 1, 2015, as a part of energy efficiency standards for lighting products, unless the commission makes certain findings.

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. (a) The Legislature finds and declares both of
- 2 the following:
- 3 (1) Historically, the energy efficiency standards prescribed by
- 4 the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development
- 5 Commission pursuant to Section 25402 of the Public Resources
- 6 Code have reduced energy consumption, saved consumers money,

1 and promoted adoption of advanced technology. The commission's
2 efforts have led the nation in energy conservation.

3 (2) However, the commission's recent and pending regulatory
4 actions pertaining to light emitting diode (LED) lighting products
5 will have the opposite effect by imposing restrictions on those
6 lighting products that will needlessly raise the price of lamps,
7 reduce energy savings, and retard the adoption of advanced
8 technology products by consumers.

9 (b) It is the intent of the Legislature to do both of the following:

10 (1) Reaffirm its support for progressive energy efficiency
11 standards, including those applicable to lighting products, but not
12 if those standards make LED lighting products too expensive,
13 sacrifice energy savings, and discourage purchase and adoption
14 by consumers.

15 (2) Adjust modestly standards applicable to LED light products
16 to save consumers money, promote energy savings, reduce
17 electricity bills, and encourage the adoption of LED lighting
18 products by consumers.

19 SEC. 2. Section 25402.12 is added to the Public Resources
20 Code, to read:

21 25402.12. (a) For purposes of this section, the following terms
22 mean the following:

23 (1) "Energy Star program" means the United States
24 Environmental Protection Agency Energy Star program.

25 (2) "LED lighting products" has the same meaning as "LED
26 light engine," "LED light engine with integrated heat sink," or
27 "LED luminaries" as defined in subdivision (n) of Section 1602
28 of Title 20 of the California Code of Regulations.

29 (b) The commission shall not adopt a color rendering index
30 (CRI) value greater than the CRI value set forth in the Energy Star
31 program, as of January 1, 2015, as a part of energy efficiency
32 standards for LED lighting products, unless the commission makes
33 all of the following findings:

34 (1) Peer reviewed studies demonstrate that a CRI value greater
35 than that required by the Energy Star program will increase the
36 rate of consumer adoption and produce greater sales of LED
37 lighting products.

38 (2) Peer reviewed studies demonstrate that energy efficiency
39 gains from consumer adoption of LED lighting products using a
40 CRI value greater than that required by the Energy Star program

1 will exceed the energy efficiency gains that would result from
2 consumer adoption of LED lighting products meeting the standards
3 set forth in the Energy Star program.

4 (3) Peer reviewed studies demonstrate that consumers are willing
5 to pay an increased purchase price for LED lighting products with
6 a CRI value greater than that required by the Energy Star program.
7 The commission shall determine how much more a higher CRI
8 LED lighting product will cost a typical California homeowner as
9 compared to a comparable LED lighting product meeting the
10 standards set forth in the Energy Star program.

11 (4) Peer reviewed studies demonstrate that consumers are willing
12 to pay higher electricity bills to use lower efficiency LED lighting
13 products with a CRI value greater than that required by the Energy
14 Star program. The commission shall determine the average increase
15 in electricity costs for a typical California homeowner that would
16 result from the use of a higher CRI LED lighting product as
17 compared to a comparable LED lighting product meeting the
18 standards set forth in the Energy Star Program.

19 (c) Subdivision (b) shall apply to all of the following:

20 (1) Voluntary performance specifications for LED lighting
21 products, including those used by the commission or other public
22 agencies in rebate programs.

23 (2) Standards prescribed pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section
24 25402 for LED lighting products.

25 (3) Standards prescribed pursuant to subdivision (a) or (b) of
26 Section 25402 for LED lighting products.