

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1815

Introduced by Assembly Member Alejo

February 8, 2016

An act to amend Section 39713 of, and to add Section 39713.5 to, the Health and Safety Code, relating to greenhouse gases.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1815, as introduced, Alejo. California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006: disadvantaged communities.

The California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 designates the State Air Resources Board as the state agency charged with monitoring and regulating sources of emissions of greenhouse gases. The act authorizes the state board to include the use of market-based compliance mechanisms. Existing law requires all moneys, except for fines and penalties, collected by the state board as part of a market-based compliance mechanism to be deposited in the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund and to be available upon appropriation. Existing law requires the California Environmental Protection Agency to identify disadvantaged communities and requires the Department of Finance, in consultation with the state board and any other relevant state agency, to develop, as specified, a 3-year investment plan for the moneys deposited in the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund. Existing law requires the 3-year investment plan to allocate a minimum of 25% of the available moneys in the fund to projects that provide benefits to disadvantaged communities.

This bill would require the state board to prepare and post on its Internet Web site a specified report on the projects funded to benefit disadvantaged communities.

This bill would require the state board to establish a comprehensive technical assistance program, upon the appropriation of moneys from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund, for eligible applicants, as specified, assisting eligible communities, as defined.

This bill also would require the department to include in the 3-year investment plan an allocation to the state board for that technical assistance program.

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. Section 39713 of the Health and Safety Code is
2 amended to read:

3 39713. (a) The investment plan developed and submitted to
4 the Legislature, pursuant to Section 39716, shall allocate a
5 minimum of 25 percent of the available moneys in the fund to
6 projects that provide benefits to communities described in Section
7 39711.

8 (b) The investment plan shall allocate a minimum of 10 percent
9 of the available moneys in the fund to projects located within
10 communities described in Section 39711.

11 (c) The allocation pursuant to subdivision (b) may be, but need
12 not be, for projects included, in whole or in part, in the set of
13 projects supported by the allocation described in subdivision (a).

14 (d) *The state board shall prepare and post on its Internet Web*
15 *site a report on the projects funded pursuant to this section. The*
16 *report shall include all of the following:*

- 17 (1) *A general description of each project.*
- 18 (2) *The location where each project will be implemented.*
- 19 (3) *The estimated date of completion of each project.*
- 20 (4) *The amount awarded to each project.*
- 21 (5) *The status of any moneys in the fund that are not awarded*
22 *pursuant to this section and the reasons those moneys have not*
23 *been awarded.*

24 SEC. 2. Section 39713.5 is added to the Health and Safety
25 Code, to read:

26 39713.5. (a) For purposes of this section, “eligible
27 communities” means census tracts identified as disadvantaged

1 pursuant to Section 39711 or with median incomes at or below 80
2 percent of the statewide median income.

3 (b) The investment plan developed and submitted to the
4 Legislature pursuant to Section 39716 shall allocate from the
5 available moneys in the fund technical assistance moneys to the
6 state board to implement this section. That allocation of technical
7 assistance moneys shall not be used to satisfy the requirements of
8 subdivisions (a) and (b) of Section 39713.

9 (c) (1) Upon an appropriation of moneys from the fund, the
10 state board shall establish a comprehensive technical assistance
11 program for eligible applicants assisting eligible communities that
12 the state board determines require technical assistance in accessing
13 programs allocated moneys appropriated from the fund.

14 (2) Eligible applicants include, but are not limited to, regional
15 agencies and nonprofit organizations coordinating with local
16 governments.

17 (3) (A) The state board, in consultation with the California
18 Environmental Protection Agency and agencies that administer
19 programs using moneys appropriated from the fund, shall develop
20 guidelines to implement this program consistent with this section.

21 (B) The state board shall provide an opportunity for public
22 comment prior to finalizing the guidelines.

23 (d) The state board shall prioritize technical assistance for those
24 communities demonstrating the greatest need for increased capacity
25 to access programs using moneys appropriated from the fund.

26 (e) The program established pursuant to this section shall
27 provide assistance to eligible applicants with any of the following:

28 (1) Identifying state agencies with appropriate grant programs.

29 (2) Developing competitive project proposals to apply for
30 moneys available through state agencies or pursuant to this chapter.

31 (3) Coordinating existing local programs to reduce greenhouse
32 gas emissions with new programs receiving moneys pursuant to
33 this chapter.

34 (4) Conducting community outreach to residents of eligible
35 communities that the state board determines require technical
36 assistance on consumer programs receiving state or local moneys
37 pursuant to this chapter or for other programs that reduce
38 greenhouse gas emissions.

39 (f) Technical assistance provided pursuant to this section shall
40 promote programs that reduce emissions of greenhouse gases and

- 1 demonstrate a direct, meaningful benefit to eligible communities.
- 2 Cobenefits of these programs may include, but are not limited to,
- 3 improved air quality, improved water quality, improved public
- 4 health, increased access to employment in clean energy, increased
- 5 access to affordable housing and transit, reduced residential and
- 6 commercial water use, and increased residential and commercial
- 7 energy efficiency.

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