

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 11, 2016

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 28, 2016

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 7, 2016

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1815

Introduced by Assembly Member Alejo

February 8, 2016

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

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1815, as amended, 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 agency to establish a comprehensive technical assistance program, upon the appropriation of moneys from the ~~Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund~~, *fund*, for eligible applicants, as specified, assisting eligible communities, as defined. The bill would require the agency to provide technical assistance to *eligible* communities based on a specified priority.

This bill also would require the department to include in the 3-year investment plan an allocation to the agency 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 39713.5 is added to the Health and Safety
- 2 Code, to read:
- 3 39713.5. (a) For purposes of this section, the following terms
- 4 have the following meanings:
- 5 (1) "Agency" means the California Environmental Protection
- 6 Agency.
- 7 (2) "Eligible communities" means census tracts identified as
- 8 disadvantaged pursuant to Section 39711 or with median incomes
- 9 at or below 60 percent of the statewide median ~~income~~, *income or*
- 10 *with median incomes at or below the threshold designated as very*
- 11 *low income by the Department of Housing and Community*
- 12 *Development's list of state income limits adopted pursuant to*
- 13 *Section 50093.*
- 14 (b) The investment plan developed and submitted to the
- 15 Legislature pursuant to Section 39716 shall allocate from the
- 16 available moneys in the fund technical assistance moneys to the
- 17 agency to implement this section. That allocation of technical
- 18 assistance moneys shall not be used to satisfy the requirements of
- 19 subdivisions (a) and (b) of Section 39713.
- 20 (c) (1) Upon an appropriation of moneys from the fund, the
- 21 agency shall establish a comprehensive technical assistance
- 22 program for eligible applicants assisting eligible communities that
- 23 the agency determines require technical assistance in accessing
- 24 programs allocated moneys appropriated from the fund.

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

4 (3) (A) The agency, in consultation with agencies that
5 administer programs using moneys appropriated from the fund,
6 shall develop guidelines to implement this program consistent with
7 this section.

8 (B) The agency shall provide an opportunity for public comment
9 prior to finalizing the guidelines.

10 (d) The agency shall prioritize technical assistance for *eligible*
11 communities based on the following order:

12 (1) Communities having the greatest need for increased access
13 to programs using moneys appropriated from the fund.

14 (2) Communities having a lower demonstrated general capacity
15 to apply for grant funding.

16 (3) Communities that have not previously applied for and
17 received grant funding.

18 (4) Communities that have previously received grant funding.
19 These communities shall be ranked based on the amount of grant
20 funding per capita received, with those having received the lesser
21 amount per capita provided with higher priority.

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

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

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

27 (3) Coordinating existing local programs to reduce greenhouse
28 gas emissions with new programs receiving moneys pursuant to
29 this chapter.

30 (4) Conducting community outreach to residents of eligible
31 communities that the agency determines require technical
32 assistance on consumer programs receiving state or local moneys
33 pursuant to this chapter or for other programs that reduce
34 greenhouse gas emissions.

35 (f) Technical assistance provided pursuant to this section shall
36 promote programs that reduce emissions of greenhouse gases and
37 demonstrate a direct, meaningful benefit to eligible communities.
38 Cobenefits of these programs may include, but are not limited to,
39 improved air quality, improved water quality, improved public
40 health, increased access to employment in clean energy, increased

- 1 access to affordable housing and transit, reduced residential and
- 2 commercial water use, and increased residential and commercial
- 3 energy efficiency.

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