

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 11, 2016

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 29, 2016

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 10, 2016

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2293

**Introduced by Assembly Members Cristina Garcia, Alejo, Eggman,
Eduardo Garcia, and Gomez**
(Principal coauthor: Senator Leyva)

February 18, 2016

An act to add Part 10 (commencing with Section 44480) to Division 26 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to greenhouse gases.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2293, as amended, Cristina Garcia. Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund: Green Assistance Program.

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.

This bill would establish the Green Assistance Program, to be administered by the Secretary for Environmental Protection to, among other things, assist small businesses and small nonprofit organizations in applying for moneys from programs using moneys from the fund, 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. The Legislature finds and declares both of the
2 following:

3 (a) Small businesses and small nonprofit organizations often
4 lack the technical expertise to develop grant and financing options.

5 (b) For the state to meet its air quality goals, every business and
6 community must have the same opportunity to compete for funding
7 that is available to meet those air quality goals.

8 SEC. 2. Part 10 (commencing with Section 44480) is added to
9 Division 26 of the Health and Safety Code, to read:

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11 PART 10. GREEN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

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13 44480. For purposes of this part, the following definitions
14 apply:

15 (a) "Fund" means the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund,
16 established pursuant to Section 16428.8 of the Government Code.

17 (b) "Secretary" means the Secretary for Environmental
18 Protection.

19 44481. The Green Assistance Program is hereby established
20 and shall be administered by the secretary. The program shall do
21 all of the following:

22 (a) Provide technical assistance, including the development of
23 competitive project proposals, to small businesses and small
24 nonprofit organizations when applying for an allocation of moneys
25 from the fund.

26 (b) Assist small businesses in applying for funding for energy
27 efficiency upgrades to meet and exceed the greenhouse gas
28 emission reductions established pursuant to Section 38560.

29 (c) ~~Assist~~ Advise small businesses in complying with all
30 applicable federal, state, and local air quality laws.

- 1 (d) Identify state agencies with appropriate grant programs.
- 2 (e) Coordinate existing local programs to reduce greenhouse
- 3 gas emissions with new programs receiving moneys from the fund.

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