

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 31, 2016

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 20, 2016

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 12, 2016

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2722

Introduced by Assembly Member Burke

February 19, 2016

An act to add Part 4 (commencing with Section 75240) to Division 44 of the Public Resources Code, relating to greenhouse gases.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2722, as amended, Burke. Transformative Climate Communities 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 from the auction or sale of allowances as part of a market-based compliance mechanism to be deposited in the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund. The state board is required to adopt a statewide greenhouse gas emissions limit equivalent to the statewide greenhouse gas emissions level in 1990 to be achieved by 2020.~~

Existing law establishes the Strategic Growth Council and requires the council to identify and review activities and funding programs that may be coordinated to improve air and water quality, improve natural resource protection, increase the availability of affordable housing,

improve transportation, meet the goals of the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006, encourage sustainable land use planning, and revitalize urban and community centers in a sustainable manner.

This bill would create the Transformative Climate Communities Program, to be administered by the council. ~~The bill would provide that, upon appropriation by the Legislature, up to \$250,000,000 shall be available from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund to the council to administer the program.~~ The bill would require the council, in coordination with the California Environmental Protection Agency Assistant Secretary for Environmental Justice and Tribal Affairs, to award competitive grants to specified eligible entities for the development of transformative climate community plans, and projects that implement plans, that contribute to the reduction of emissions of greenhouse gases and demonstrate potential climate, economic, workforce, health, and environmental benefits in disadvantaged communities, as defined, *communities* that have a demonstrated need for climate, economic, workforce, health, and environmental benefits.

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 4 (commencing with Section 75240) is added
2 to Division 44 of the Public Resources Code, to read:

3
4 PART 4. TRANSFORMATIVE CLIMATE COMMUNITIES
5 PROGRAM
6

7 75240. The Transformative Climate Communities Program is
8 hereby created, to be administered by the Strategic Growth Council.
9 The program shall fund the development and implementation of
10 neighborhood-level transformative climate community plans that
11 include multiple, coordinated greenhouse gas emissions reduction
12 projects that provide local economic, environmental, and health
13 benefits that are directly connected to communities most impacted
14 by pollution and vulnerable to climate change. By making such
15 comprehensive public investments, it is the intent of the Legislature
16 that private resources can more effectively be catalyzed to support
17 innovative community and climate transformation in disadvantaged
18 communities.

1 75241. (a) The council, in coordination with the California
2 Environmental Protection Agency Assistant Secretary for
3 Environmental Justice and Tribal Affairs, shall award competitive
4 grants to eligible entities through an application process. To be
5 eligible, an entity shall demonstrate multistakeholder partnerships
6 with local agencies, community-based organizations, labor groups,
7 workforce investment boards, and other stakeholders, as
8 appropriate. An eligible entity includes any of the following:

- 9 (1) A nonprofit organization.
- 10 (2) A community-based organization.
- 11 (3) A faith-based organization.
- 12 (4) A coalition or association of nonprofit organizations.
- 13 (5) A community development finance institution.
- 14 (6) A community development corporation.
- 15 (7) A local agency.

16 (b) (1) The council shall award grants for the development of
17 transformative climate community plans, and projects that
18 implement plans, that contribute to the reduction of emissions of
19 greenhouse gases and demonstrate potential climate, economic,
20 workforce, health, and environmental benefits located in
21 ~~disadvantaged communities, as identified pursuant to Section~~
22 ~~39711 of the Health and Safety Code~~, *communities* that have a
23 demonstrated need for climate, economic, workforce, health, and
24 environmental benefits. The council shall award grants for plans
25 that are designed to achieve, and projects that demonstrate, an
26 integrated, innovative, cross-cutting project with multiple benefits
27 provided directly in a disadvantaged community and that
28 demonstrate community engagement and leadership in all phases.
29 A plan shall identify metrics to meet the overall goals of the
30 Transformative Climate Communities Program and the desired
31 long-term changes in the plan's region. In awarding grants, the
32 council may make grant awards for plan development contingent
33 on the implementation of one or more projects identified by the
34 plan.

35 (2) The council may award a grant over multiple years.

36 (c) In awarding grants, the council shall weigh economic,
37 environmental, and health benefits equally with climate benefits
38 resulting from greenhouse gas emissions reductions.

39 (d) (1) For purposes of this part, "economic benefits" means
40 high-quality, well-paid employment opportunities for residents in

1 the plan’s region, benefits for small businesses located directly in
2 the relevant disadvantaged community, and benefits for minority-,
3 LGBT-, woman-, or disabled veteran-owned small businesses in
4 the plan’s region.

5 (2) For purposes of this subdivision, “LGBT” means lesbian,
6 gay, bisexual, or transgender.

7 75242. (a) The council and all funded entities shall endeavor
8 to identify additional public and private sources of funding to
9 sustain and expand the program.

10 (b) The council shall endeavor to identify and coordinate a
11 network of technical assistance providers to assist in plan
12 development, implementation, and project financing.

13 ~~SEC. 2. Up to two hundred fifty million dollars (\$250,000,000)~~
14 ~~shall be available, upon appropriation by the Legislature, from the~~
15 ~~Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund, created pursuant to Section~~
16 ~~16428.8 of the Government Code, to the Strategic Growth Council~~
17 ~~to administer the Transformative Climate Communities Program~~
18 ~~pursuant to Part 4 (commencing with Section 75240) of Division~~
19 ~~44 of the Public Resources Code.~~