

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2769

Introduced by Assembly Member Patterson

February 19, 2016

An act to amend Section 399.11 of the Public Utilities Code, relating to renewable energy.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2769, as introduced, Patterson. Renewable energy.

Under existing law, the Public Utilities Commission has regulatory jurisdiction over public utilities, including electrical corporations, while local publicly owned electric utilities are under the direction of their governing boards. Existing law imposes various regulations on public utilities and local publicly owned electric utilities. Existing law establishes the California Renewables Portfolio Standards Program, which is codified in the Public Utilities Act, with the target to increase the amount of electricity generated per year from eligible renewable energy resources to an amount that equals at least 50% of the total electricity sold to retail customers per year by December 31, 2030.

This bill would make a nonsubstantive change to legislative findings and declarations relating to the above-described provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 399.11 of the Public Utilities Code is
- 2 amended to read:
- 3 399.11. The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

1 (a) In order to attain a target of generating 20 percent of total
2 retail sales of electricity in ~~California~~ *the state* from eligible
3 renewable energy resources by December 31, 2013, 33 percent by
4 December 31, 2020, and 50 percent by December 31, 2030, it is
5 the intent of the Legislature that the commission and the Energy
6 Commission implement the California Renewables Portfolio
7 Standard Program described in this article.

8 (b) Achieving the renewables portfolio standard through the
9 procurement of various electricity products from eligible renewable
10 energy resources is intended to provide unique benefits to
11 California, including all of the following, each of which
12 independently justifies the program:

13 (1) Displacing fossil fuel consumption within the state.

14 (2) Adding new electrical generating facilities in the
15 transmission network within the Western Electricity Coordinating
16 Council service area.

17 (3) Reducing air pollution in the state.

18 (4) Meeting the state's climate change goals by reducing
19 emissions of greenhouse gases associated with electrical generation.

20 (5) Promoting stable retail rates for electric service.

21 (6) Meeting the state's need for a diversified and balanced
22 energy generation portfolio.

23 (7) Assistance with meeting the state's resource adequacy
24 requirements.

25 (8) Contributing to the safe and reliable operation of the
26 electrical grid, including providing predictable electrical supply,
27 voltage support, lower line losses, and congestion relief.

28 (9) Implementing the state's transmission and land use planning
29 activities related to development of eligible renewable energy
30 resources.

31 (c) The California Renewables Portfolio Standard Program is
32 intended to complement the Renewable Energy Resources Program
33 administered by the Energy Commission and established pursuant
34 to Chapter 8.6 (commencing with Section 25740) of Division 15
35 of the Public Resources Code.

36 (d) New and modified electric transmission facilities may be
37 necessary to facilitate the state achieving its renewables portfolio
38 standard targets.

39 (e) (1) Supplying electricity to California end-use customers
40 that is generated by eligible renewable energy resources is

1 necessary to improve California’s air quality and public health,
2 and the commission shall ensure rates are just and reasonable, and
3 are not significantly affected by the procurement requirements of
4 this article. This electricity may be generated anywhere in the
5 interconnected grid that includes many ~~states~~, *states* and areas of
6 both Canada and Mexico.

7 (2) This article requires generating resources located outside of
8 California that are able to supply that electricity to California
9 end-use customers to be treated identically to generating resources
10 located within the state, without discrimination.

11 (3) California electrical corporations have already executed,
12 and the commission has approved, power purchase agreements
13 with eligible renewable energy resources located outside of
14 California that will supply electricity to California end-use
15 customers. These resources will fully count toward meeting the
16 renewables portfolio standard procurement requirements.