

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JULY 1, 2015

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 2, 2015

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 5, 2015

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 13, 2015

SENATE BILL

No. 246

Introduced by Senator Wieckowski

February 18, 2015

An act to add Part 4.5 (commencing with Section 71350) to Division 34 of the Public Resources Code, relating to environmental protection.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 246, as amended, Wieckowski. Climate change adaptation.

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 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 and to adopt rules and regulations in an open public process to achieve the maximum, technologically feasible, and cost-effective greenhouse gas emissions reductions. The act requires all state agencies to consider and implement strategies to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions. An executive order establishes a climate action team consisting of specified ex officio members and requires the team to make a specified biannual report to the Legislature and Governor.

This bill would *establish the Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program to be administered by the Office of Planning and Research to coordinate state, regional, and local agency efforts to adapt to the*

impacts of climate change, as specified. The bill would require the California Environmental Protection Agency, the Natural Resources Agency, and the office, no later than January 1, 2019, 2017, and every 3 years thereafter, to update the 2009 California Climate Adaptation Strategy, as specified. The bill also would require the Office of Planning and Research office, no later than January 1, 2017, 2018, and every 3 years thereafter, to update the Adaptation Planning Guide, as specified. The bill would establish an advisory council, as specified, to support those goals of the Office of Planning and Research office. The bill would require the office to establish a clearinghouse for climate adaptation information, 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. Part 4.5 (commencing with Section 71350) is
 2 added to Division 34 of the Public Resources Code, to read:

3

4 PART 4.5. CLIMATE-CHANGE ADAPTATION AND
 5 RESILIENCY PROGRAM

6

7 71350. For purposes of this part, “office” means the Office of
 8 Planning and Research.

9 ~~71350.~~

10 71352. The Legislature finds and declares:

11 (a) The state has been a leader in climate mitigation efforts.
 12 However, the state’s efforts alone will not prevent global climate
 13 change from occurring, as noted in the update to the 2009
 14 California Climate Adaptation Strategy issued in July 2014. Due
 15 to the inevitability of climate change impacts on the state, the state
 16 must invest in building resiliency and strengthening adaptation
 17 efforts at the state, regional, and local levels using the
 18 best-available science.

19 (b) Improved coordination of existing adaptation planning efforts
 20 and funding by the state, as well as increased implementation and
 21 support of adaptation programs, can directly protect the state’s
 22 infrastructure, communities, environmental quality, public health,
 23 natural resources, and economy from the unavoidable impacts of
 24 climate change for decades to come.

1 (c) *In order to have a cohesive and comprehensive adaptation*
2 *response to climate change impacts, the state must have integrated*
3 *planning with coordinated strategies across state, regional, and*
4 *local governments and agencies.*

5 (d) *The office is established as the comprehensive state planning*
6 *agency that shall engage in the formulation, evaluation, and*
7 *updating of long-range goals for factors that shape statewide*
8 *development patterns and significantly influence the quality of the*
9 *state's environment, in addition to assisting state, regional, and*
10 *local agencies in a variety of research and planning efforts,*
11 *pursuant to Section 65040 of the Government Code. Therefore,*
12 *the office is well-positioned to work with state, regional, and local*
13 *entities across the state in coordinating climate adaptation*
14 *strategies.*

15 (e)

16 (e) *It is the intent of the Legislature, therefore, that adaptation*
17 *strategies to build resiliency to the risks and impacts from climate*
18 *change be integrated in state policies, projects, and permitting*
19 ~~*processes: processes,*~~ *and that the office serve as a coordinating*
20 *body for adaptation projects and goals across California.*

21 *71354. The Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program is*
22 *hereby established to be administered by the office. No later than*
23 *January 1, 2017, the Director of State Planning and Research*
24 *shall establish the program to coordinate state, regional, and local*
25 *agency efforts to adapt to the impacts of climate change with, to*
26 *the extent feasible, an emphasis on climate equity considerations*
27 *across sectors and regions and strategies that benefit both*
28 *reductions greenhouse gas emissions and adaptation efforts. The*
29 *program shall include all of the following:*

30 (a) *Assisting state agencies in coordinating the planning and*
31 *preparation of regular updates to the 2009 California Climate*
32 *Adaptation Strategy, pursuant to Section 71356, and maintain*
33 *copies of the updates on the office's Internet Web site.*

34 (b) *Working with relevant state agencies and public and private*
35 *entities to create regular updates to the Adaptation Planning*
36 *Guide, pursuant to Section 71358, and maintain copies of the*
37 *updates on the office's Internet Web site. One or more lead state*
38 *agencies may be designated to prepare the updates.*

39 (c) *Coordinating and maintaining the state's clearinghouse for*
40 *climate adaptation information, pursuant to Section 71362.*

1 (d) Conducting regular meetings with the advisory council
2 established pursuant to Section 71360 in order to have expertise
3 and advice from regional and local experts working in climate
4 adaptation throughout the research and planning processes, as
5 described in this section.

6 ~~71352.~~

7 71356. No later than January 1, ~~2019, the Natural Resources~~
8 ~~Agency, 2017, and every three years thereafter, the California~~
9 ~~Environmental Protection Agency, the Natural Resources Agency,~~
10 ~~and the office, in coordination with those agencies that have~~
11 ~~previously led sector-specific adaptation efforts and any relevant~~
12 ~~public and private entities, shall update the 2009 California Climate~~
13 ~~Adaptation Strategy, for which the first update was titled~~
14 ~~Safeguarding California: Reducing Climate Risk, to incorporate~~
15 ~~advances in climate science and risk management options regarding~~
16 ~~regional and statewide climate change impacts and vulnerabilities~~
17 ~~and recommended adaptation strategies.~~

18 ~~71355.~~

19 71358. (a) No later than January 1, ~~2017, the Office of~~
20 ~~Planning and Research, 2018, and every three years thereafter,~~
21 ~~the office, in coordination with all relevant public and private~~
22 ~~entities, shall update the Adaptation Planning Guide to provide~~
23 ~~tools and guidance to regional and local governments and agencies~~
24 ~~in creating and implementing climate adaptation and community~~
25 ~~resiliency plans and projects. The Adaptation Planning Guide~~
26 ~~updates shall be informed by the climate adaptation clearinghouse~~
27 ~~established pursuant to Section 71362 and the scientific~~
28 ~~assessments and recommendations in the most recent update~~
29 ~~prepared pursuant to Section ~~71352~~ 71356. The Adaptation~~
30 ~~Planning Guide updates shall include, at a minimum, all of the~~
31 ~~following:~~

32 (1) Information concerning funding opportunities for adaptation
33 research, planning, and projects.

34 (2) Regionally prioritized best-practice adaptation projects that,
35 where appropriate, integrate efforts to reduce greenhouse gas
36 emissions across the state.

37 (3) Recommended metrics and indicators to track the progress
38 and success of adaptation efforts locally, regionally, and statewide.

39 (4) Adaptation planning templates for use by local governments
40 and regional collaboratives.

1 (5) Guidelines for coordinating adaptation activities among state
2 and local governments and regional collaboratives.

3 (b) As part of updating the Adaptation Planning Guide, *the office*
4 *with* the advisory council created pursuant to Section 71360 shall
5 hold public meetings and workshops at least annually in the
6 northern, southern, and central regions of the state to obtain input
7 from the public and leaders in local and regional climate
8 preparedness.

9 71360. (a) An advisory council to the ~~Office of Planning and~~
10 ~~Research~~ *office* is hereby established. The advisory council shall
11 be comprised of 15 members from a range of disciplines in order
12 to provide scientific and technical support, as well as regional and
13 local perspectives, to support the ~~Office of Planning and Research's~~
14 *office's* goals identified in ~~Section 71355~~ *this part*.

15 (b) Members of the advisory council shall be appointed based
16 on their expertise in the intersection of climate change and areas
17 that include, but need not be limited to, any of the following:

- 18 (1) Public health.
- 19 (2) Environmental quality.
- 20 (3) Environmental justice.
- 21 (4) Agriculture.
- 22 (5) Transportation and housing.
- 23 (6) Energy.
- 24 (7) Natural resources and water.
- 25 (8) Planning.
- 26 (9) Recycling and waste management.
- 27 (10) Local or regional government.

28 (c) Five members of the advisory council shall be appointed by
29 the Governor, five members shall be appointed by the Speaker of
30 the Assembly, and five members shall be appointed by the Senate
31 Committee on Rules. All members shall be appointed to four-year
32 terms with the possibility of reappointment.

33 (d) The advisory council shall meet with the ~~Office of Planning~~
34 ~~and Research~~ *office* as needed but not less than three times a year.

35 (e) The members of the advisory council shall serve without
36 compensation but shall be reimbursed for necessary expenses
37 incurred in the performance of their duties.

38 71362. (a) (1) *The office shall coordinate with appropriate*
39 *entities, including state, regional, or local agencies, to establish*

1 *a clearinghouse for climate adaptation information for use by*
2 *state, regional, and local entities.*

3 *(2) The clearinghouse shall be a centralized source of*
4 *information that provides downscaled climate data to guide*
5 *decisionmakers at state, regional, and local levels when planning*
6 *for and implementing climate adaptation projects to promote*
7 *resiliency to climate change. The clearinghouse shall include all*
8 *of the following:*

9 *(A) A collection of the best-available science, projections and*
10 *models, and vulnerability assessments of climate change impacts*
11 *throughout the state at statewide, regional, and local levels for*
12 *both near-term and longer term timescales, including year 2050*
13 *and year 2100 projections. Climate change impacts shall include,*
14 *but are not limited to, impacts to public health, natural resources,*
15 *environmental quality, and infrastructure.*

16 *(B) Tools that allow for the visualization or identification of*
17 *regional and local impacts across the state and that integrate*
18 *best-available data on vulnerable populations and infrastructure.*

19 *(C) A library of relevant white papers, case studies, research*
20 *articles, and climate adaptation best practices that are searchable*
21 *by relevance to region, locality, and sector.*

22 *(b) The clearinghouse shall be regularly updated with relevant*
23 *information to improve its functionality as a tool to guide*
24 *decisionmaking at state, regional, and local levels.*

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