

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 13, 2015  
AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 22, 2015  
AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 6, 2015

**SENATE BILL**

**No. 494**

---

---

**Introduced by Senator Hill  
(Coauthor: Senator Hertzberg)**

February 26, 2015

---

---

An act to *amend Section 8587.8 of, and to add Section 8587.9 to to,* the Government Code, relating to emergency services.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 494, as amended, Hill. Emergency services: seismic safety and earthquake-related programs.

Existing law creates, within the office of the Governor, the Office of Emergency Services which, under the Director of Emergency Services, coordinates disaster response, emergency planning, emergency preparedness, disaster recovery, disaster mitigation, and homeland security activities. Existing law requires various entities, including the Office of Emergency Services, through a public-private partnership, to develop a comprehensive statewide earthquake early warning system in California that includes certain features, including the installation of field sensors.

This bill would create the California Earthquake Safety Fund and would require moneys in the fund, upon appropriation by the Legislature, be used for seismic safety and earthquake-related programs, including the earthquake early warning system described above. The bill would authorize the fund to accept ~~grants, contributions, and appropriations from public agencies, private foundations, entities, or individuals~~ *federal*

*funds, funds from revenue bonds, local funds, and funds from private sources for purposes of carrying out its ~~provisions~~. provisions, and would make conforming changes.*

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 8587.8 of the Government Code is*  
2 *amended to read:*

3 8587.8. (a) The Office of Emergency Services, in collaboration  
4 with the California Institute of Technology (Caltech), the California  
5 Geological Survey, the University of California, the United States  
6 Geological Survey, the Alfred E. Alquist Seismic Safety  
7 Commission, and other stakeholders, shall develop a  
8 comprehensive statewide earthquake early warning system in  
9 California through a public-private partnership, which shall include,  
10 but not be limited to, the following features:

- 11 (1) Installation of field sensors.
- 12 (2) Improvement of field telemetry.
- 13 (3) Construction and testing of central processing and
- 14 notification centers.
- 15 (4) Establishment of warning notification distribution paths to
- 16 the public.
- 17 (5) Integration of earthquake early warning education with
- 18 general earthquake preparedness efforts.

19 (b) In consultation with stakeholders, the Office of Emergency  
20 Services shall develop an approval mechanism to review  
21 compliance with earthquake early warning standards as they are  
22 developed. The development of the approval mechanism shall  
23 include input from a broad representation of earthquake early  
24 warning stakeholders. The approval mechanism shall accomplish  
25 all of the following:

- 26 (1) Ensure the standards are appropriate.
- 27 (2) Determine the degree to which the standards apply to
- 28 providers and components of the system.
- 29 (3) Determine methods to ensure compliance with the standards.
- 30 (4) Determine requirements for participation in the system.
- 31 (c) The Office of Emergency Services shall identify funding
- 32 for the system described in subdivision (a) through single or

1 multiple sources of revenue that shall be limited to federal funds,  
2 funds from revenue bonds, local funds, and *funds from* private  
3 ~~grants~~ *sources*. The Office of Emergency Services shall not  
4 identify the General Fund as a funding source for the purpose of  
5 establishing the system described in subdivision (a), beyond the  
6 components or programs that are currently funded.

7 (d) Subdivisions (a) and (b) shall not become operative until  
8 the Office of Emergency Services identifies funding pursuant to  
9 subdivision (c).

10 (e) (1) If funding is not identified pursuant to subdivision (c)  
11 by January 1, 2016, this section is repealed unless a later enacted  
12 statute, that is enacted before January 1, 2016, deletes or extends  
13 that date.

14 (2) The Office of Emergency Services shall file with the  
15 Secretary of State its determination that funding was not identified  
16 pursuant to subdivision (c) by January 1, 2016.

17 ~~SECTION 1.~~

18 *SEC. 2.* Section 8587.9 is added to the Government Code, to  
19 read:

20 8587.9. (a) The Legislature finds and declares that there is a  
21 critical need for a consistent and coordinated approach to seismic  
22 safety and earthquake-related programs in the State of California  
23 through the Governor's Office of Emergency Services. These  
24 programs may include, but are not limited to, earthquake response,  
25 recovery, warning, mitigation, planning, research, preparedness,  
26 training and exercises, hazard grants, public information, and  
27 education. This approach includes the coordination of state  
28 agencies and departments that have responsibilities to monitor and  
29 respond to, and to recover from, earthquakes and to assist the  
30 citizens and businesses in California. In order to facilitate the  
31 requirements of Section 8587.8, the Legislature establishes the  
32 California Earthquake Safety Fund within the State Treasury.

33 (b) (1) The California Earthquake Safety Fund is hereby created  
34 in the State Treasury. Upon appropriation by the Legislature, the  
35 moneys in the fund shall be used for seismic safety and  
36 earthquake-related programs, including the statewide earthquake  
37 early warning system described in Section 8587.8.

38 (2) ~~The Pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 8587.8, the~~  
39 California Earthquake Safety Fund may accept ~~grants,~~  
40 ~~contributions, and appropriations from public agencies, private~~

1 ~~foundations, entities, or individuals~~ *federal funds, funds from*  
2 *revenue bonds, local funds, and funds from private sources* for  
3 purposes of carrying out the provisions of this section.

O