

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY AUGUST 24, 2015

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JULY 1, 2015

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 22, 2015

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 6, 2015

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 21, 2015

**SENATE BILL**

**No. 516**

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**Introduced by Senator Fuller**

February 26, 2015

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An act to amend Sections 2550 and 2557 of the Streets and Highways Code, relating to highways.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 516, as amended, Fuller. Transportation: motorist aid services.

Existing law authorizes the establishment of a service authority for freeway emergencies in any county if the board of supervisors of the county and the city councils of a majority of the cities within the county adopt resolutions providing for the establishment of the service authority. Existing law authorizes a service authority to impose a fee of \$1 per year on vehicles registered in the counties served by the service authority. Existing law generally requires moneys received by a service authority to be used for the implementation, maintenance, and operation of a motorist aid system of call boxes and authorizes moneys received by a service authority in excess of what is needed for that system to be used for additional motorist aid services, including, among other things, changeable message signs and lighting for call boxes. Existing law requires the Department of Transportation and the Department of the

California Highway Patrol to review and approve plans, and amendments to plans, for implementation of a motorist aid system of call boxes.

This bill would require each service authority to determine how those moneys received by it are to be used by the service authority for the implementation, maintenance, and operations of a motorist aid system, including call boxes. The bill would additionally authorize the use of those moneys for traveler information systems, Intelligent Transportation System architecture and infrastructure, and other transportation demand management services, and safety-related hazard and obstruction removal. The bill would require the Department of Transportation and the Department of the California Highway Patrol to review and approve plans, and amendments to plans, for implementation of a motorist aid system of call boxes pursuant to specified guidelines.

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 2550 of the Streets and Highways Code  
2 is amended to read:

3 2550. The Legislature declares that its intent in enacting this  
4 chapter is to encourage a motorist aid system comprising multiple  
5 service elements and infrastructure along the California Freeway  
6 and Expressway System to enable motorists in need of aid to obtain  
7 assistance. However, it is not intended that a motorist aid system  
8 be considered an emergency system.

9 SEC. 2. Section 2557 of the Streets and Highways Code is  
10 amended to read:

11 2557. (a) Each service authority shall determine how moneys  
12 received by it pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 9250.10 of  
13 the Vehicle Code shall be used for the implementation,  
14 maintenance, and operation of a motorist aid system, including  
15 the lease or lease-purchase of facilities and equipment for the  
16 system, on the portions of the California Freeway and Expressway  
17 System and a county expressway system, and the unincorporated  
18 county roads in that county, and on state highway routes that  
19 connect segments of these systems, that are located within the  
20 county in which the authority is established. The department and  
21 the Department of the California Highway Patrol shall each review  
22 and approve plans, pursuant to the “CHP/Caltrans Call Box and

1 Motorist Aid Guidelines,” referenced in Section 2421.5 of the  
2 Vehicle Code, for implementation of a motorist aid system of call  
3 boxes proposed for any state highway route and shall be reimbursed  
4 by the service authority for all costs incurred due to review and  
5 approval of the plan.

6 (b) An authority or any other public entity may construct and  
7 maintain, and lease or lease-purchase on terms and conditions it  
8 deems appropriate, the facilities of a motorist aid system or it may  
9 contract with a private person or entity to do so.

10 (c) If leases or lease-purchase agreements are entered into  
11 pursuant to subdivision (a), or if revenue bonds are issued and sold  
12 pursuant to Section 2558, the moneys received by each service  
13 authority pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 9250.10 of the  
14 Vehicle Code shall be used to the extent necessary to make lease  
15 payments or to pay the principal of, and interest on, the amount  
16 of bonded indebtedness outstanding, as the case may be. Facilities  
17 and equipment acquired through the expenditure of proceeds from  
18 the sale of those bonds shall have a useful life at least equal to the  
19 term of the bonds.

20 (d) (1) Any moneys received and allocated by a service  
21 authority pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 9250.10 of the  
22 Vehicle Code may be used for purposes of paragraph (2) and for  
23 full implementation and ongoing costs to maintain and operate the  
24 motorist aid system pursuant to subdivision (a), including, but not  
25 limited to, the following motorist aid and safety-related projects:

26 (A) Call boxes.

27 (B) Changeable message signs.

28 (C) Lighting for call boxes.

29 (D) Support for traffic operations centers.

30 (E) Contracting for removal of disabled vehicles from the  
31 traveled portion of the right-of-way, including operation of the  
32 freeway service patrol pursuant to Chapter 15 (commencing with  
33 Section 2560).

34 (F) Traveler information systems, Intelligent Transportation  
35 System architecture and infrastructure, and other transportation  
36 demand management services.

37 (G) Safety-related hazard and obstruction removal.

38 (2) Any amendment to an existing plan for a motorist aid system  
39 of call boxes adopted by a service authority for any state highway  
40 route shall, prior to implementation, be submitted to the department

1 and the Department of the California Highway Patrol for review  
2 and approval, and shall not be implemented until so reviewed and  
3 approved pursuant to the “CHP/Caltrans Call Box and Motorist  
4 Aid Guidelines,” referenced in Section 2421.5 of the Vehicle Code.  
5 The service authority shall reimburse each department for the costs  
6 of that review.

7 (3) Service authority funding provided for projects described  
8 in subparagraphs (B),(F), and (G) of paragraph (1) is intended to  
9 supplement, and not replace, department expenditures for similar  
10 infrastructure and services on the California Freeway and  
11 Expressway System.

12 (e) A service authority may develop policies for the retention  
13 of records, including, but not limited to, authority operations,  
14 contracts, and programs, and the length of the retention period.

15 (f) A motorist aid system constructed, maintained, or operated  
16 pursuant to this section shall meet the applicable standards of Title  
17 II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (Public Law  
18 101-336) and federal regulations adopted pursuant thereto.

19 (g) *Nothing in this section relieves a service authority of any*  
20 *obligation under the law to receive appropriate permission or*  
21 *approval from the department for activities within rights-of-way*  
22 *under the jurisdiction of the department.*