

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 25, 2016
AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 7, 2016
AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 29, 2016

SENATE BILL

No. 1153

Introduced by Senator Cannella

February 18, 2016

An act to add Section 38561.5 to the Health and Safety Code, relating to greenhouse gases.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1153, as amended, Cannella. Greenhouse gases: scoping plan: biomethane.

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 requires the state board to prepare and approve a scoping plan for achieving the maximum technologically feasible and cost-effective reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and to update the scoping plan at least once every 5 years.

This bill would require the state board, as a part of the update to the scoping plan and in consultation with other state entities, to provide a comprehensive overview of state efforts to encourage the development of ~~instate~~ *in-state* biomethane and renewable natural gas.

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. The Legislature finds and declares all of the
2 following:

3 (a) California has enacted numerous policies to reduce the
4 emissions of greenhouse gases and increase the use of renewable
5 energy resources and renewable fuels.

6 (b) California has numerous programs to incentivize and
7 encourage the development of biogas, biomethane, and renewable
8 natural gas projects.

9 (c) Despite a regulatory environment encouraging renewable
10 energy production and greenhouse gases emissions reductions, the
11 development of biomethane and other renewable natural gas
12 projects continues to lag in the state.

13 (d) Obstacles to increased biomethane and renewable natural
14 gas projects should be identified and addressed.

15 (e) Investments in dairy waste digesters, landfill diversion
16 programs, and anaerobic digesting at wastewater treatment facilities
17 provide significant reductions in the emissions of greenhouse gases,
18 including methane, for the state.

19 (f) A coordinated effort by state agencies should be undertaken
20 to address remaining obstacles and identify additional incentive
21 programs, if needed, to encourage the increased development of
22 ~~instate~~ *in-state* biomethane and renewable natural gas projects.

23 SEC. 2. Section 38561.5 is added to the Health and Safety
24 Code, to read:

25 38561.5. As a part of the update of the scoping plan required
26 pursuant to subdivision (h) of Section 38561, the state board, in
27 consultation with the Public Utilities Commission, the Department
28 of Food and Agriculture, the State Energy Resources Conservation
29 and Development Commission, the Department of Resources
30 Recycling and Recovery, and any other relevant state entity, shall
31 provide a comprehensive overview of state efforts to encourage
32 the development of ~~instate~~ *in-state* biomethane and renewable
33 natural gas. The overview shall include, but not be limited to, all
34 of the following:

35 (a) The role of biomethane and renewable natural gas in the
36 state's efforts to reduce the emissions of greenhouse gases.

37 (b) The estimated amount of *biomethane and* renewable natural
38 gas that can ~~most-effectively~~ *feasibly* be developed from the state's

1 organic waste streams, including the waste, agricultural, dairy, and
2 forestry sectors.

3 (c) ~~Estimated~~ *The estimated* cost-effectiveness of the *production*
4 *of biomethane and renewable natural gas from the* various waste
5 streams.

6 (d) ~~Analysis~~ *An analysis* of current market conditions for
7 *biomethane and renewable natural gas in California.*

8 (e) ~~Overview~~ *An overview* of current programs to encourage
9 development of biomethane and renewable natural gas.

10 (f) Identification of obstacles to increased development of ~~instate~~
11 *in-state* biomethane and renewable natural gas.

12 (g) Identification of solutions for legislative consideration to
13 address obstacles identified in subdivision (f) and encourage
14 increased ~~instate~~ *in-state* biomethane and renewable natural gas
15 development, including, but not limited to, incentive programs
16 and grants, preferential loan programs to enhance project financing,
17 and market stabilization programs, such as contracts for differences,
18 tax credits, and biomethane purchase programs.