

AMENDED IN SENATE AUGUST 8, 2000

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 26, 2000

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 3, 2000

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—1999–2000 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2317

Introduced by Assembly Member Ducheny
(Coauthor: Assembly Member Firebaugh)
(Coauthor: Senator Kelley)

February 24, 2000

An act to add Division 35 (commencing with Section 72500) to the Public Resources Code, relating to environmental protection.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2317, as amended, Ducheny. Environmental protection: California-Mexico border.

Existing law contains various provisions to protect the environment and makes moneys available for that purpose.

This bill would create the California Border Environmental Education Fund. The money in that fund would be available, upon appropriation, to the Secretary for Environmental Protection to assist and train governmental officials and employees and community-based nonprofit environmental organizations located within the California-Baja California border region, as defined, and faculty of postsecondary educational institutions located within Baja California and within the California-Baja California border region, on issues

related to environmental protection and resource conservation. The bill would require the secretary, upon request, to make information available concerning the fund. These provisions would only be operative during those fiscal years for which funds are appropriated in the annual Budget Act to implement the bill.

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. Division 35 (commencing with Section
2 72500) is added to the Public Resources Code, to read:

3
4 DIVISION 35. ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AT
5 THE CALIFORNIA-MEXICO BORDER
6

7 72500. The following definitions govern the
8 construction of this division:

9 (a) "Cal BECC" means the California Border
10 Environmental Cooperation Committee established on
11 July 22, 1994, by the Governors of California, Baja
12 California, and Baja California Sur.

13 (b) "California-Baja California border region" means
14 the region described in Chapter IV of the US-Mexico
15 Border XXI Program, Framework Document, published
16 October 1996.

17 (c) "Fund" means the California Border
18 Environmental Education Fund established pursuant to
19 Section 72501.

20 72501. (a) The California Border Environmental
21 Education Fund is hereby established in the State
22 Treasury. ~~The balance in the fund shall not exceed three~~
23 ~~hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000). Any money~~
24 ~~deposited in the fund that causes the balance to exceed~~
25 ~~three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000) shall be~~
26 ~~returned to the source from which it was transferred.~~

27 (b) The money in the fund shall be available, upon
28 appropriation, to the Secretary of Environmental



1 Protection, for allocation for expenditure for the purposes
2 of this division.

3 (c) The money in the fund shall not be made available
4 for the purpose of bringing a person or a facility into
5 compliance with environmental laws, or to provide funds
6 to remediate environmental damage.

7 72502. The money in the fund shall be used for the
8 following purposes:

9 (a) To assist and train governmental officials and
10 employees and community-based nonprofit
11 environmental organizations located within the
12 California-Baja California border region, and faculty,
13 including researchers, at postsecondary educational
14 institutions located within Baja California and within the
15 California-Baja California border region, on issues related
16 to environmental protection and resource conservation.

17 (b) To provide technical assistance to those persons
18 and entities described in subdivision (a) with regard to
19 environmental protection, ~~cleanup measures, and~~
20 ~~resource conservation, and to provide minor capital~~
21 ~~outlay for emergency projects necessary to prevent harm~~
22 ~~to California's environment and its citizens..~~

23 72503. (a) The Secretary for Environmental
24 Protection, upon request, shall inform any
25 community-based nonprofit environmental organization
26 located within the California-Baja California border
27 region that they may request funding pursuant to Section
28 72502.

29 (b) The Secretary for Environmental Protection, in
30 consultation with Cal BECC, shall award grants to a
31 governmental entity, community-based nonprofit
32 environmental organization, or postsecondary
33 educational institution based on the severity of the
34 environmental concerns in the city or county in which
35 the entity, organization, or institution is located. First
36 priority for funding shall be given to an entity,
37 organization, or institution located in a city or county in
38 which environmental concerns in that city or county
39 adversely affect air or water quality in a neighboring
40 California city or county.



1 (c) The Secretary for Environmental Protection, on
2 behalf of Cal BECC, shall accept donations of used
3 equipment, including computers, printers, and lab
4 equipment, for distribution to governmental entities and
5 community-based nonprofit environmental
6 organizations located within the California-Baja
7 California border region and postsecondary educational
8 institutions located within Baja California and within the
9 California-Baja California border region.
10 72504. This division shall only be operative during
11 those fiscal years for which funds are appropriated in the
12 annual Budget Act to implement this division.

