

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 11, 2000

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—1999–2000 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2572

Introduced by Assembly Member Corbett

February 25, 2000

An act to ~~amend Section 8870 of~~ *add Section 8588.4 to the Government Code, relating to seismic safety natural disasters, and making an appropriation therefor.*

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2572, as amended, Corbett. ~~Seismic—Safety Commission—Natural disaster resistance planning.~~

Existing law prescribes the responsibilities of the Office of Emergency Services and the Seismic Safety Commission with regard to earthquakes and other natural disasters.

This bill would require the office to institute a project impact grant program that would provide grants to counties as pilot regions for disaster resistance planning to mitigate risks from future earthquakes and other natural disasters. The office would be required to consult with the commission in adopting grant criteria and selecting grantees. The bill would appropriate \$10,000,000 from the General Fund to the office for purposes of the bill.

~~Existing law sets forth certain findings and declarations in regard to the establishment of the Seismic Safety Commission in state government.~~

~~This bill would make technical, nonsubstantive changes to these provisions.~~

Vote: ~~majority~~ ²/₃. Appropriation: ~~no~~—yes. Fiscal committee: ~~no~~ yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 ~~SECTION 1.—Section 8870 of the Government Code is~~
2 *SECTION 1. Section 8588.4 is added to the*
3 *Government Code, to read:*
4 *8588.4. (a) The Office of Emergency Services shall*
5 *institute a project impact grant program pursuant to this*
6 *section.*
7 *(b) The office, in consultation with the Seismic Safety*
8 *Commission, shall consider applications and shall*
9 *annually select two counties as pilot regions for disaster*
10 *resistance planning. The selected counties shall receive*
11 *financial grants on a one-time basis to be used for*
12 *mitigation programs to reduce their risk from future*
13 *earthquakes or other natural disasters.*
14 *(c) Counties that wish to be designated as project*
15 *impact communities by the office shall apply to the office*
16 *for consideration. In order to be considered for a grant,*
17 *a county shall have developed a mitigation and recovery*
18 *plan outlining how the county would recover after an*
19 *earthquake and how it would act to prevent damage*
20 *before it occurs. The plan shall include an element to*
21 *reestablish government operations and community*
22 *services and to explain how programs would be*
23 *developed to reduce risk from future earthquakes or*
24 *natural disasters. The plan shall also contain a description*
25 *of how the county would spend the grant money to*
26 *reduce its exposure to earthquake hazards and other*
27 *natural disasters.*
28 *(d) The office, in consultation with the Seismic Safety*
29 *Commission, shall, by regulation, establish criteria that*
30 *counties shall meet to qualify for project impact grants*
31 *under this section. The criteria shall include, but not be*
32 *limited to, recognition of identified earthquake or other*
33 *natural disaster hazards, and utilization of current*
34 *cost-effective techniques designed to reduce losses from*
35 *earthquakes and other natural disasters.*



1 (e) If the office agrees that a county is subject to the
2 specified natural disasters and finds that it has met the
3 criteria established under this section, the office may
4 approve the designation of the county as a project impact
5 community and make a grant to the county for that
6 purpose.

7 (f) The project impact grants shall be used by counties
8 for the exclusive purpose of implementing earthquake
9 and other natural disaster mitigation measures for
10 purposes of reducing risk from future earthquakes or
11 other natural disasters.

12 (g) The office may utilize money appropriated for the
13 purposes of this section for necessary administrative costs
14 to administer this program. The office shall not use that
15 money for other internal disaster related activities.
16 Money shall be awarded on an annual basis to two
17 counties representing various geological areas of the
18 state, as pilot regions for disaster resistance planning as a
19 first step in creating a new California disaster resistance
20 program.

21 SEC. 2. The sum of ten million dollars (\$10,000,000) is
22 hereby appropriated from the General Fund to the Office
23 of Emergency Services for the purposes of Section 8588.4
24 of the Government Code.

25 ~~amended to read:~~

26 ~~8870. The Legislature finds and declares as follows:~~

27 ~~(a) The Legislature's Joint Committee on Seismic~~
28 ~~Safety as well as the Governor's Earthquake Council~~
29 ~~provides impressive and wide-ranging evidence for the~~
30 ~~following:~~

31 ~~(1) Many different agencies at various levels of~~
32 ~~government have substantial responsibilities in the fields~~
33 ~~of earthquake preparedness and seismic safety.~~

34 ~~(2) There is a pressing need to provide a consistent~~
35 ~~policy framework and a means for coordinating, on a~~
36 ~~continuing basis, the earthquake-related programs of~~
37 ~~agencies at all governmental levels and their~~
38 ~~relationships with elements of the private sector involved~~
39 ~~in practices important to seismic safety. This need is not~~



1 ~~being addressed by any continuing state government~~
2 ~~organization.~~

3 ~~(3) Through concerted efforts of broad scope,~~
4 ~~coordinated by a Seismic Safety Commission, long-term~~
5 ~~progress should be made toward higher levels of seismic~~
6 ~~safety.~~

7 ~~(b) It is not the purpose of this chapter to transfer to~~
8 ~~the commission the authorities and responsibilities now~~
9 ~~vested by law in state and local agencies.~~

