

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 21, 2010

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 7, 2010

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 10, 2010

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2009–10 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2443

Introduced by Assembly Member V. Manuel Pérez

February 19, 2010

An act to amend Section 99501 of, to add the heading of Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 99500) to, and to add Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 99530) to, Title 20 of, the Government Code, relating to state government.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2443, as amended, V. Manuel Pérez. State government: international relations.

(1) Existing law, the California International Trade and Investment Act, identifies the Governor as the primary state officer representing this state's interests in international affairs, as specified, and additionally identifies the respective roles of other specified points of contact within the executive branch. The act imposes various responsibilities on the state point of contact, including, among others, serving as the liaison between the state and the Office of the United States Trade Representative on trade-related matters.

This bill would additionally require the state point of contact to provide to specified legislative committees, within 5 business days copies of any official position or comments that any entity within the executive branch of state government provided to the United States Trade Representative regarding a pending trade agreement.

(2) The California International Trade and Investment Act also requires the Office of Planning and Research to maintain and update a full and comprehensive list of all state agreements made with foreign governments, as specified.

This bill would enact the Sister State Relationship Act of 2010, which would authorize the Legislature or the Governor to initiate a Sister State relationship, as defined, with a foreign nation or jurisdiction within a foreign nation. This bill would make it the policy of the state to certify and officially recognize Sister State relationships that satisfy prescribed criteria. The bill would make the office responsible for certifying Sister State relationships that satisfy these criteria, and maintaining a list of these Sister State relationships, as specified.

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 heading of Chapter 1 (commencing with
2 Section 99500) is added to Title 20 of the Government Code, to
3 read:

4
5 CHAPTER 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS
6

7 SEC. 2. Section 99501 of the Government Code is amended
8 to read:

9 99501. (a) (1) The state point of contact within the executive
10 branch acts, in compliance with federal practice, as the liaison
11 between the state and the Office of the United States Trade
12 Representative on trade-related matters.

13 (2) The state point of contact who, in compliance with federal
14 practice, receives updates from the federal government on trade
15 policies, is often provided the opportunity to review and comment
16 on ongoing trade negotiations.

17 (b) The state point of contact shall, in addition to any other
18 duties assigned by the Governor, do all of the following:

19 (1) Promptly disseminate correspondence or information from
20 the United States Trade Representative to the appropriate legislative
21 committees and state agencies and departments.

22 (2) Work with the Legislature and appropriate state agencies
23 and departments to review the effects of any proposed or enacted

1 trade agreement provisions on the state's businesses and workers,
2 its environment, or its general lawmaking authority, and
3 communicate those findings to the United States Trade
4 Representative.

5 (3) Serve as liaison to the Legislature on matters of trade policy
6 oversight.

7 (4) Provide to the legislative committees assigned the
8 responsibility for international trade issues, within five business
9 days, any official position or comments that any entity within the
10 executive branch of state government provided to the United States
11 Trade Representative regarding a pending trade agreement.

12 SEC. 3. Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 99530) is added
13 to Title 20 of the Government Code, to read:

14
15 CHAPTER 2. SISTER STATE RELATIONSHIPS
16

17 99530. This chapter shall be known, and may be cited, as the
18 Sister State Relationship Act of 2010.

19 99531. For purposes of this chapter, the following terms shall
20 have the following meanings:

21 (a) "Sister State" means a foreign nation or particular jurisdiction
22 within a foreign nation.

23 (b) "Sister State relationship" means a relationship characterized
24 by a mutual interest in collaboration and the sharing of information
25 to further educational, economic, and cultural exchanges between
26 this state and a Sister State. A "Sister State relationship" shall not
27 be construed to create any legal relationship between this state and
28 a Sister State or to impose any legally enforceable duties or
29 responsibilities on either state. ~~The purpose~~ *purposes* of a Sister
30 State relationship may include, but need not be limited to,
31 promoting the economic growth and well-being of small, medium,
32 and large companies in both states by increasing their potential
33 for trade and investment, providing a forum for sustained goodwill
34 and cooperation between the elected leaders of the states, and
35 promoting bilateral ties that lead to a more indelible and lasting
36 relationship between the citizens of the states.

37 99532. A Sister State relationship may be initiated on behalf
38 of this state by either of the following methods:

39 (a) Either house of the Legislature may enact a concurrent
40 resolution that expresses a desire to enter into a Sister State

1 relationship with a particular Sister State for the purpose of
2 encouraging and facilitating mutually beneficial educational,
3 economic, and cultural exchanges.

4 (b) The Governor may issue an Executive order that expresses
5 a desire to enter into a Sister State relationship with a particular
6 Sister State for the purpose of encouraging and facilitating mutually
7 beneficial educational, economic, and cultural exchanges.

8 99533. It shall be the policy of this state to certify and officially
9 recognize Sister State relationships that demonstrate the following
10 characteristics:

11 (a) A mutual interest between the states to enter into a Sister
12 State relationship. The interest of the State of California shall be
13 demonstrated by a document described in Section 99532. The
14 interest of the Sister State shall be demonstrated by a comparable
15 written document, as determined by the Office of Planning and
16 Research, issued by the Sister State.

17 (b) A designation of a contact person in each state who shall be
18 responsible for developing and implementing ~~sister-state~~ *sister-state*
19 activities, including a commitment to begin implementation of
20 these activities within one year of the Sister State relationship
21 being certified pursuant to Section 99534.

22 (c) A written specification, preferably in the documents
23 described in subdivision (a) or a jointly signed letter, that identifies
24 specific goals and measurable objectives sought to be accomplished
25 during the term of the Sister State relationship.

26 (d) An established term for the initial Sister State relationship,
27 not to exceed four years.

28 (e) A commitment that the contact person designated pursuant
29 to subdivision (b) shall prepare and submit to the Office of
30 Planning and Research, no later than six months after the term of
31 a Sister State relationship expires, a report that summarizes all
32 known activities conducted pursuant to the Sister State relationship.

33 (f) The Sister State does not appear on the United States
34 Department of State list of countries that condone or engage in
35 inhumane treatment of individuals, or ~~that is~~ *is not* otherwise
36 prohibited from entering into such a relationship under federal
37 law.

38 99534. (a) A Sister State relationship that has been initiated
39 pursuant to Section 99532 shall not be officially recognized or
40 implemented until it has been certified by the Office of Planning

1 and Research. The office shall certify a proposed Sister State
2 relationship that complies with the policies of this state enumerated
3 in Section 99533.

4 (b) The Office of Planning and Research shall maintain a list
5 of all certified Sister State relationships. The list shall be updated
6 within 30 days of the expiration of the term of each existing Sister
7 State relationship or the certification of a new Sister State
8 relationship. The list shall include, at minimum, the following
9 information:

10 (1) Identification of the Sister State.

11 (2) Identification of the certification and termination dates of
12 the Sister State relationship.

13 (3) Identification of the designated contact person for each state.

14 (4) The specified goals and objectives of the Sister State
15 relationship.

16 (c) The Office of Planning and Research shall have the authority
17 to decertify a previously certified Sister State relationship if the
18 Sister State subsequently appears on the United States Department
19 of State list, described in subdivision (f) of Section 99533.

20 ~~99535. Any Sister State relationships in effect prior to January~~
21 ~~1, 2007, shall terminate, without prejudice, on January 1, 2011.~~
22 ~~Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, a terminated Sister~~
23 ~~State relationship may be reestablished pursuant to requirements~~
24 ~~of this chapter.~~