

AMENDED IN SENATE JULY 15, 2010

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 13, 2010

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 15, 2010

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2009–10 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2614

**Introduced by Assembly Member John A. Perez
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Tom Berryhill, Bradford, Carter,
Fong, Fuentes, Fuller, Ma, Skinner, Swanson, and Villines)**

February 19, 2010

An act to add Chapter 5.10 (commencing with Section 25499) to Division 15 of the Public Resources Code, relating to energy.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2614, as amended, John A. Perez. Energy: home retrofit: federal program.

Existing law requires the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission to administer federal funds pursuant to specified federal programs to eligible entities to reduce fossil fuel emissions, improve energy efficiency, and reduce overall energy use.

This bill would require the commission, upon the enactment of the federal Home Star Energy Retrofit Act of 2010, in consultation with the United States Department of Energy, to develop programs that are required by, and that complement, the federal act. The bill would require the commission, in consultation with specified entities, to take specified actions to implement the federal Home Star program.

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) The United States Congress is currently working to enact
4 bipartisan legislation related to the Home Star Energy Retrofit Act
5 of 2010 (~~House Resolution 5019~~). The federal Home Star program
6 is a six-billion-dollar (\$6,000,000,000) national effort designed to
7 create jobs, spur manufacturing, and promote technological
8 innovation by providing incentives for residential energy efficiency
9 improvements.

10 (b) The federal Home Star program is comprised of Silver Star
11 and Gold Star rebates, comprehensive energy audits, independent
12 quality assurance checks, and various financing options.
13 Nationwide, the federal Home Star program is projected to create
14 almost 200,000 jobs and enable 3,000,000 home energy retrofits.

15 (c) It is critically important that California integrate the federal
16 Home Star program with existing state energy efficiency programs,
17 including the investor owned and municipal utility efforts, the
18 State Energy Resources Conservation and Development
19 Commission's actions to implement the provisions of Chapter 470
20 of the Statutes of 2009 and to expand the development and the use
21 of Property Assessed Clean Energy bonds to finance energy or
22 water efficiency improvement.

23 (d) California also received two hundred twenty-six million
24 dollars (\$226,000,000) from the federal American Recovery and
25 Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-5) for the State Energy
26 Program (SEP). California's SEP will increase residential and
27 commercial building energy efficiency, reduce energy consumption
28 and utility bills, cut reliance on imported energy, and decrease the
29 impacts on the environment caused by energy production.

30 (e) California needs to ensure that it is in the best position to
31 maximize and fully leverage the federal resources that will flow
32 to its homeowners and businesses from the federal Home Star
33 program.

34 SEC. 2. Chapter 5.10 (commencing with Section 25499) is
35 added to Division 15 of the Public Resources Code, to read:

CHAPTER 5.10. HOME STAR PROGRAM

25499. (a) Upon the enactment of the federal Home Star Energy Retrofit Act of 2010—(~~House Resolution 5019~~), the commission shall, in consultation with the United States Department of Energy, develop programs that are required by, and that complement, the federal act that, among other things, do all of the following:

(1) Establish a quality assurance program.
(2) Ensure that a qualified pool of professionals is available to perform quality assurance checks.

(3) Ensure that the requisite quality assurance is performed.

(4) Develop financing options.

(b) The commission, working in conjunction with the Department of Community Services and Development and the Public Utilities Commission, shall streamline procedures for eligible low-income homeowners to receive assistance for energy efficiency retrofit.

(c) The commission shall, working in conjunction with the Public Utilities Commission, the electric utilities, and the gas utilities, coordinate program implementation efforts and provide proper outreach to minimize consumer confusion and the orderly implementation of the federal Home Star program.

(d) The commission shall, in coordination with the Green Collar Jobs Council, ensure that the council's programs, policies, and participants are complementary to the federal Home Star program to the greatest extent possible.

(e) (1) The commission may adopt guidelines governing the award, eligibility, and administration of funding pursuant to this section at a publicly noticed meeting.

(2) For the initial adoption of guidelines, the commission shall provide written notice to the public of not less than 30 days.

(3) For substantive amendments to the guidelines, the commission shall provide written public notice of not less than 15 days.

(4) Notwithstanding any other law, guidelines adopted pursuant to this subdivision shall be exempt from the requirements of

- 1 Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division
- 2 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

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