

Introduced by Senator LiuJanuary 27, 2010

An act to add Article 6 (commencing with Section 65050) to Chapter 1.5 of Division 1 of Title 7 to the Government Code, relating to the Office of Federal Funding Information and Assistance.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 907, as introduced, Liu. Office of Federal Funding Information and Assistance: establishment.

Existing law establishes the Office of Planning and Research within the office of the Governor to, among other duties, assist the Governor and the Governor's cabinet in long-range planning and research.

This bill would establish the Office of Federal Funding Information and Assistance within the Office of Planning and Research to increase the capacity of eligible entities in this state to successfully apply for federal funds. This bill would require the Office of Federal Funding Information and Assistance to submit an annual report on its activities to the Governor and the Legislature, and authorize it to seek federal funding, charge reasonable fees, and enter into specified partnerships to provide for the costs of performing its duties.

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. Article 6 (commencing with Section 65050) is
- 2 added to Chapter 1.5 of Division 1 of Title 7 of the Government
- 3 Code, to read:

1 Article 6. Office of Federal Funding Information and Assistance

2
3 65050. The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

4 (a) This state is the third geographically largest and the most
5 populace state in the union and includes three of the 10 most
6 populated cities in the nation.

7 (b) This state is the most geographically, ethnically, and
8 economically diverse state in the nation.

9 (c) This state contributes substantial revenues to the federal
10 government, and is eligible to receive substantial funding from the
11 federal government that extends beyond formula allocations,
12 including federal funding for local and regional governments,
13 schools, nonprofit community improvement, education, health,
14 economic development, job training, and community services.

15 (d) In the current economic climate, attracting federal funds to
16 this state is vital to assisting governmental and nongovernmental
17 entities provide essential services, improving public education,
18 stimulating the economy, creating and maintaining jobs, building
19 public works and transportation infrastructure, improving
20 environmental quality, and operating programs to mitigate the
21 effects of emergencies and catastrophic events.

22 (e) Entities eligible for federal funding often lack the resources
23 and skills needed to track the availability of federal funds,
24 participate in the prebid process, and prepare competitive proposals,
25 and the state can assist in successfully attracting federal funds by
26 providing a centralized source of information relating to federal
27 funding opportunities, eligibility information, and technical
28 assistance for participating in the competitive bidding process.

29 65051. (a) The Office of Federal Funding Information and
30 Assistance is established within the Office of Planning and
31 Research which is within the office of the Governor.

32 (b) To provide for the costs of performing its duties under this
33 article, the Office of Federal Funding Information and Assistance
34 may seek federal funding, charge reasonable fees, and enter into
35 partnerships with public, private, and nonprofit entities, as allowed
36 by other law.

37 65052. The Office of Federal Funding Information and
38 Assistance shall do all of the following:

39 (a) Track availability and success rates of obtaining federal
40 funding in the state.

1 (b) Create and maintain an Internet Web site of federal funding
2 opportunities, resources, and technical information.

3 (c) Create and maintain an electronic mail list of individuals
4 and entities that want information on federal funding opportunities.

5 (d) Provide a monthly newsletter and e-mail alert notification
6 process to announce new programs and grant opportunities.

7 (e) Provide technical assistance by conducting workshops, online
8 seminars, and conferences.

9 (f) Maintain a public telephone line operated by live operators
10 during business hours, as set forth in Article 2 (commencing with
11 Section 11020), of Chapter 1 of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2.

12 (g) Engage in any other activity, as deemed appropriate and
13 necessary, to increase the capacity of eligible entities in California
14 to successfully apply for federal funds.

15 65053. On or before December 15, 2011, and each year
16 thereafter, the Office of Federal Funding Information and
17 Assistance shall submit to the Governor and the Legislature a
18 report detailing the costs, activities, and results of its activities for
19 the past 12 calendar months and make recommendations to improve
20 its success in the next year.