

BILL ANALYSIS

SENATE RULES COMMITTEE	SB 1771
Office of Senate Floor Analyses	
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UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Bill No: SB 1771
 Author: Sher (D)
 Amended: 8/29/00
 Vote: 21

SENATE ENV. QUALITY COMMITTEE : 10-0, 4/24/00
 AYES: Sher, Alarcon, Alpert, Chesbro, Hayden, McPherson,
 O'Connell, Rainey, Solis, Wright

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE : 9-2, 5/25/00
 AYES: Johnston, Alpert, Bowen, Burton, Escutia, Karnette,
 McPherson, Perata, Vasconcellos
 NOES: Kelley, Leslie

SENATE FLOOR : 28-11, 5/31/00
 AYES: Alarcon, Alpert, Bowen, Burton, Chesbro, Costa,
 Dunn, Escutia, Figueroa, Hayden, Hughes, Johnston,
 Karnette, McPherson, Murray, O'Connell, Ortiz, Peace,
 Perata, Polanco, Rainey, Schiff, Sher, Solis, Soto,
 Speier, Vasconcellos, Wright
 NOES: Brulte, Johannessen, Johnson, Kelley, Knight,
 Leslie, Lewis, Monteith, Morrow, Mountjoy, Poochigian

ASSEMBLY FLOOR : 46-30, 8/30/00 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT : Greenhouse gas emission reductions: climate
 change

SOURCE : Author

DIGEST : This bill establishes the California Climate
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Action Registry to establish, among other things, emissions baselines against which any future federal greenhouse gas emission reduction requirements may be applied, to encourage voluntary actions to increase energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and record voluntary greenhouse gas emissions made after 1990.

Assembly Amendments

- 1.Name the registry the California Climate Action Registry and specify that it be a public nonprofit corporation.
- 2.Set forth various functions that the registry is required to perform.
- 3.Establish responsibilities for the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission to qualify third-party organizations to provide technical assistance and advice in monitoring greenhouse gas emissions, setting industry-specific emission reduction targets and implementing efficiency improvement programs.

ANALYSIS : This bill:

- 1.Makes findings and declarations relative to the importance of California's efforts to reduce greenhouse gases and of establishing a voluntary registry for greenhouse gas emission reductions.
- 2.Requires the State Resources Agency to establish a registry through which California entities may record and register voluntary greenhouse gas emission reductions made after 1990.
- 3.Requires the State Energy, Resources Conservation and Development Commission (Energy Commission) to jointly develop and undertake a series of tasks in order to

facilitate operation and use of the registry.

4. Establishes procedures for reporting, monitoring, and verifying emissions.
5. Requires, not later than July 1, 2003, and biennially thereafter, the registry to report to the Governor and

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the Legislature on the number of organizations participating in the registry, the percentage of the state's emissions represented by the participants in the registry, and the reductions in greenhouse gas emissions achieved by those participants.

6. Establishes specific requirements for the Energy Commission, including providing technical assistance and advice in monitoring greenhouse gas emissions, establishing industry-specific emissions reduction targets, and developing efficiency improvement programs.

Comments

According to the author's office, this bill was introduced in response to suggestions made at an interim hearing last fall in Los Angeles by the Senate Environmental Quality Committee on the subject of climate change. A key recommendation by many of the business witnesses at the hearing was to find non-regulatory methods by which businesses could be encouraged to voluntarily reduce greenhouse gas emissions. This bill is intended to address those recommendations.

The terms "global warming": and "global climate change" refer to the rise in the average temperature of the earth's surface due to a build-up of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. While considerable political debate continues regarding the existence, causes, and effects of global warming, a majority of the world's climate scientists, as well as a special "blue ribbon" scientific panel of international experts convened by the United Nations, agree that global warming is occurring and that measures should be taken to address its effects.

According to NASA's Goddard Institute for Space Studies in the past century global temperatures have risen approximately one degree Fahrenheit, with the 1990's the warmest decade on record to date. The most recent assessment of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, a body of over 2,000 scientists, found that "the balance of evidence suggests a discernable human influence on global climate." Scientists predict that, unless greenhouse gas emissions are reduced substantially, Earth's

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average global temperature will rise by two to six degrees Fahrenheit by the end of the next century.

FISCAL EFFECT : Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes
Local: No

Unknown.

SUPPORT : (Unable to reverify support and opposition at time of writing)

Clean Power Campaign
Planning and Conservation League
Sierra Club

ASSEMBLY FLOOR :

AYES: Alquist, Aroner, Bock, Calderon, Cardenas, Cardoza, Cedillo, Corbett, Correa, Cunneen, Davis, Ducheny, Dutra, Firebaugh, Gallegos, Havice, Honda, Jackson, Keeley, Knox, Kuehl, Lempert, Longville, Lowenthal, Machado, Maldonado, Mazzoni, Migden, Papan, Reyes, Romero, Scott, Shelley, Steinberg, Strom-Martin, Thomson, Torlakson, Villaraigosa, Vincent, Washington, Wayne, Wesson, Wiggins, Wildman, Wright, Hertzberg
NOES: Aanstad, Ackerman, Ashburn, Baldwin, Bates, Battin, Baugh, Brewer, Briggs, Campbell, Cox, Dickerson, Florez,

Granlund, House, Kaloogian, Leach, Leonard, Maddox,
Margett, McClintock, Olberg, Oller, Robert Pacheco, Rod
Pacheco, Pescetti, Runner, Strickland, Thompson, Zettel

CP:cm 9/12/00 Senate Floor Analyses

SUPPORT/OPPOSITION: SEE ABOVE

**** END ****