

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1574

Introduced by Assembly Member Lowenthal

February 23, 2001

An act to add Section 25401.5 to the Public Resources Code, relating to energy resources.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1574, as introduced, Lowenthal. Energy conservation: building standards.

Existing law requires the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission to adopt regulations concerning energy conservation standards for lighting, insulation, climate control systems, and other building design and construction standards for new residential and new nonresidential buildings.

This bill would require the commission to adopt emergency regulations, not more than 240 days after the effective date of this bill, prescribing higher envelope R-value standards for new residential and nonresidential buildings, for which a building permit is issued after the effective date of this bill, and minimum standards for energy efficiency in residential buildings, which are occupied on the effective date of this bill, to be met upon resale.

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. Section 25401.5 is added to the Public
- 2 Resources Code, to read:

1 25401.5. (a) For the purpose of reducing electrical and natural
2 gas energy consumption, the commission shall do both of the
3 following:
4 (1) Adopt regulations, as provided in subdivision (c), which
5 require the inclusion of higher envelope R-values in new
6 residential buildings, and higher envelope R-values compatible
7 with ASHRAE Tier II for new nonresidential buildings, for which
8 building permits are issued after the effective date of the act adding
9 this section.
10 (2) Adopt regulations, as provided in subdivision (c), which
11 require residential buildings that are occupied on the effective date
12 of the act adding this section to meet minimum levels of energy
13 efficiency upon resale to another party.
14 (b) Subdivision (c) of Section 11346.1 of the Government
15 Code does not apply to the regulations adopted pursuant to this
16 section. Instead, the commission shall only consult with the
17 California Building Standards Commission prior to adopting the
18 regulations.
19 (c) The regulations adopted by the commission for the
20 purposes of this section shall be adopted as emergency regulations
21 in accordance with Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340)
22 of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code. For
23 purposes of that chapter of the Government Code, including
24 Section 11349.6 of the Government Code, the adoption of the
25 regulations shall be considered by the Office of Administrative
26 Law to be necessary for the immediate preservation of the public
27 peace, health and safety, and general welfare.
28 (d) The commission shall adopt the regulations pursuant to this
29 section not more than 240 days after the effective date of the act
30 adding this section.

