

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 10, 2004

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 20, 2004

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 27, 2004

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 14, 2004

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2003–04 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2685

Introduced by Assembly Member Oropeza

February 20, 2004

An act to add Section ~~65040.15~~ 12812.4 to the Government Code, relating to ~~energy resources~~ *vehicles*.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2685, as amended, Oropeza. ~~Energy resources: State Clearinghouse~~ *Vehicles: fuel conservation measures.*

Existing law prescribes the powers and duties of the Governor, the California Environmental Protection Agency, and the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission.

This bill would require the Governor, utilizing the staff and resources of the agency and the commission, to launch a public education campaign informing Californians about ways motorists can reduce their demand for gasoline and diesel fuel, and save money.

~~Existing law provides for the restructuring of California's electric power industry so that the price for the generation of electricity is determined by a competitive market. Under existing law, the Office of Planning and Research is required to coordinate, in conjunction with appropriate state, regional, and local agencies, the development of~~

objectives, criteria, and procedures for the orderly evaluation and report of the impact of public and private actions on the environmental quality of the state and as a guide to the preparation of environmental impact reports.

This bill would require, upon request, the Office of Planning and Research to facilitate the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review process for renewable energy generation facilities. The bill would authorize the Office of Planning and Research to convene appropriate state, regional, or local agencies for the purpose of streamlining the CEQA review process. The bill would not authorize the Office of Planning and Research to reduce existing environmental or other regulatory requirements.

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 65040.15 is added to the Government
- 2 SECTION 1. *The Legislature finds and declares the*
- 3 *following:*
- 4 (a) *There are more than 26 million motor vehicles registered in*
- 5 *California.*
- 6 (b) *Californians consume more than 18 billion gallons of motor*
- 7 *vehicle fuel annually.*
- 8 (c) *A study adopted by the State Energy Resources*
- 9 *Conservation and Development Commission (Energy*
- 10 *Commission) and the State Air Resources Board (Air Resources*
- 11 *Board) projects that demand for onroad gasoline fuel will increase*
- 12 *by about 1.6 percent annually between now and 2020; that onroad*
- 13 *diesel demand will increase by about 2.4 percent annually between*
- 14 *now and 2020; and that the number of motor vehicles that*
- 15 *Californians drive is growing at a rate greater than the population*
- 16 *growth.*
- 17 (d) *California’s refineries are operating at near capacity and*
- 18 *California is importing more gasoline and diesel fuel annually to*
- 19 *meet this growing demand.*
- 20 (e) *The combination of greater dependence on imported fuels*
- 21 *and vulnerability to refinery outages exposes California’s*
- 22 *economy to more frequent and higher fuel price spikes.*



1 (f) Political instability in some oil-rich nations, combined with
2 OPEC actions, have raised petroleum prices to new levels.

3 (g) California gasoline prices are currently among the highest
4 in the country.

5 SEC. 2. Section 12812.4 is added to the Government Code, to
6 read:

7 12812.4. (a) The Governor, utilizing the staff and resources
8 of the California Environmental Protection Agency and the State
9 Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission,
10 shall launch a public education campaign informing Californians
11 about ways motorists can reduce their demand for gasoline and
12 diesel fuel, and save money.

13 (b) The campaign described in subdivision (a) shall include,
14 but is not limited to, information about saving gasoline by properly
15 inflating tires, buying low-rolling-resistance tires when replacing
16 original tires, properly maintaining oil and air filters, and using
17 public transit, bicycling, walking, carpooling, and careful motor
18 vehicle route planning.

19 Code, to read:

20 65040.15. ~~(a) The Office of Planning and Research,~~
21 ~~consistent with the authority granted pursuant to subdivision (g)~~
22 ~~of Section 65040 shall, upon request, facilitate the California~~
23 ~~Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Div. 13 (commencing with~~
24 ~~Sec. 21000) P.R.C.) review process for renewable energy~~
25 ~~generation facilities.~~

26 ~~(b) To accomplish the purpose of this section, the Office of~~
27 ~~Planning and Research may convene appropriate state, regional,~~
28 ~~or local agencies for the purpose of streamlining the CEQA review~~
29 ~~process. Where possible, agencies, boards, and commissions shall~~
30 ~~work together to develop project specific timelines, processes, and~~
31 ~~mitigation measures. A mitigation measure recommended by one~~
32 ~~regulatory agency, board, or commission shall not negate a~~
33 ~~recommendation of another regulatory agency, board, or~~
34 ~~commission.~~

35 ~~(c) State agencies, departments, commissions, or boards shall~~
36 ~~staff meetings with staff of sufficient background, knowledge, and~~
37 ~~authority for the meeting to accomplish its goals.~~

38 ~~(d) Appropriate federal regulatory agencies, departments, and~~
39 ~~commissions shall be invited to participate in meetings.~~



1 ~~(c) Nothing in this section reduces, or authorizes the Office of~~
2 ~~Planning and Research to reduce, existing environmental or other~~
3 ~~regulatory requirements.~~

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