

Introduced by Senator Sher

February 26, 1999

An act to add Section 381.5 to the Public Utilities Code, relating to public utilities.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1194, as introduced, Sher. Electrical restructuring: public benefit programs.

(1) The Public Utilities Act requires the Public Utilities Commission to order specified electrical corporations to collect and spend certain funds for prescribed public benefit programs. The act specifically requires cost-effective energy efficiency and conservation activities to be funded by San Diego Gas and Electric Company, Southern California Edison Company, and Pacific Gas and Electric Company at specified levels, commencing January 1, 1998, through December 31, 2001.

This bill, notwithstanding the above provision, would require the San Diego Gas and Electric Company, Southern California Edison Company, Pacific Gas and Electric Company, Southern California Gas Company, and any other public utility designated by the commission, to administer those activities, as prescribed by the commission, through December 31, 2001. The bill would require the commission, before January 1, 2002, to study the feasibility of administering the activities through a nonprofit public benefit corporation. Because a violation of the act by a public utility is a crime, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program by creating a new crime.



(2) The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 381.5 is added to the Public
2 Utilities Code, to read:

3 381.5. Notwithstanding paragraph (1) of subdivision
4 (c) of Section 381, San Diego Gas and Electric Company,
5 Southern California Edison Company, Pacific Gas and
6 Electric Company, Southern California Gas Company,
7 and any other public utility designated by the
8 commission, shall administer the cost-effective energy
9 efficiency and conservation activities described in that
10 paragraph, as prescribed by the commission, through
11 December 31, 2001. Before January 1, 2002, the
12 commission shall study the feasibility of administering
13 those activities through a nonprofit public benefit
14 corporation.

15 SEC. 2. No reimbursement is required by this act
16 pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California
17 Constitution because the only costs that may be incurred
18 by a local agency or school district will be incurred
19 because this act creates a new crime or infraction,
20 eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty
21 for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section
22 17556 of the Government Code, or changes the definition
23 of a crime within the meaning of Section 6 of Article
24 XIII B of the California Constitution.

