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AB-2386 Office of Emergency Services: disaster council plans. (2019-2020)





Date Published: 09/30/2020 02:00 PM

Assembly Bill No. 2386

CHAPTER 254

An act to amend Section 8610 of the Government Code, relating to state government.

[Approved by Governor September 29, 2020. Filed with Secretary of State September 29, 2020.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2386, Bigelow. Office of Emergency Services: disaster council plans.

The California Emergency Services Act creates, within the office of the Governor, the Office of Emergency Services, which is responsible for addressing natural, technological, or manmade disasters and emergencies, including responsibility for activities necessary to prevent, respond to, recover from, and mitigate the effects of emergencies and disasters to people and property. Existing law authorizes cities, cities and counties, and counties to create disaster councils, by ordinance, to develop plans for meeting any condition constituting a local emergency or state of emergency, including, but not limited to, earthquakes, natural or manmade disasters specific to that jurisdiction, or state of war emergency. The law requires a disaster council to supply a copy of those plans to the Office of Emergency Services.

This bill would require the Office of Emergency Services to annually review a minimum of 10 emergency plans to determine if the plans substantially conform to or exceed specified recommendations made by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The bill would require the office to prioritize in its review a plan submitted from a county determined to be at a high risk of wildfire disaster.

Vote: majority Appropriation: no Fiscal Committee: yes Local Program: no

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Section 8610 of the Government Code is amended to read:

8610. (a) Counties, cities and counties, and cities may create disaster councils by ordinance. A disaster council shall develop plans for meeting any condition constituting a local emergency or state of emergency, including, but not limited to, earthquakes, natural or manmade disasters specific to that jurisdiction, or state of war emergency; those plans shall provide for the effective mobilization of all of the resources within the political subdivision, both public and private. The disaster council shall supply a copy of any plans developed pursuant to this section to the Office of Emergency Services. The governing body of a county, city and county, or city may, in the ordinance or by resolution adopted pursuant to the ordinance, provide for the organization, powers and duties, divisions, services, and staff of the emergency organization. The governing body of a county, city and county, or city may, by ordinance or resolution, authorize public officers, employees, and registered volunteers to command the aid of citizens when necessary in the execution of their duties during a state of war emergency, a state of emergency, or a local emergency.

- (b) Counties, cities and counties, and cities may enact ordinances and resolutions and either establish rules and regulations or authorize disaster councils to recommend to the director of the local emergency organization rules and regulations for dealing with local emergencies that can be adequately dealt with locally; and further may act to carry out mutual aid on a voluntary basis and, to this end, may enter into agreements.
- (c) (1) The Office of Emergency Services shall annually review, at a minimum, 10 emergency plans submitted to the office.
 - (2) The Office of Emergency Services shall determine if a plan reviewed pursuant to this subdivision substantially conforms to or exceeds the recommendations described in the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Comprehensive Preparedness Guide 101, or other successor emergency operations planning guidance.
 - (3) The Office of Emergency Services shall prioritize, in complying with paragraph (1), a plan submitted from a county determined to be at high risk of wildfire disaster.