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SB-1203 Net-zero emissions of greenhouse gases: state agency operations. (2021-2022)

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Senate Bill No. 1203

CHAPTER 368

An act to add Section 38562.4 to the Health and Safety Code, relating to greenhouse gases.

[Approved by Governor September 16, 2022. Filed with Secretary of State September 16, 2022.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1203, Becker. Net-zero emissions of greenhouse gases: state agency operations.

The California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 designates the State Air Resources Board as the state agency charged with monitoring and regulating sources of emissions of greenhouse gases. The state board is required to approve a statewide greenhouse gas emissions limit equivalent to the statewide greenhouse gas emissions level in 1990 to be achieved by 2020 and to ensure that statewide greenhouse gas emissions are reduced to at least 40% below the 1990 level by 2030.

This bill would declare the intent of the Legislature that state agencies aim to achieve net-zero emissions of greenhouse gases resulting from their operations no later than January 1, 2035, or as soon as feasible thereafter. The bill would require the Department of General Services, in consultation with the state board, and to the extent feasible, to publish, on its internet website or other publicly available location, an inventory of the greenhouse gas emissions of state agencies for the prior calendar year, on or before July 1, 2024, and annually thereafter until the goal has been achieved. The bill would require the department to develop and publish a plan, on or before January 1, 2026, that describes required actions and investments for achieving net-zero emissions of greenhouse gases and an estimate of the costs associated with the planned actions, and ensure that the required actions and investments are incorporated into the sustainability roadmaps of all state agencies. The bill would require the department to update the plan beginning June 30, 2028, and every 2 years thereafter until the goal has been achieved. The bill, subject to an appropriation by the Legislature, would require the department to provide information, training, coordination, best practices, and other technical assistance to state agencies to help those state agencies implement the required actions and investments. The bill would require state agencies to incorporate the required actions and investments into their future budget proposals, as provided. The bill would require the department, beginning December 31, 2027, and biennially thereafter until the achievement of the above stated goal, to report to the Legislature on progress toward achieving that goal, as provided.

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

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

SECTION 1. Section 38562.4 is added to the Health and Safety Code, to read:

38562.4. (a) For purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:

- (1) "Scope 1 emissions" means all direct emissions from sources that are owned or controlled by the state agency, including, but not limited to, emissions from onsite fossil fuel combustion and fleet fuel consumption.

(2) "Scope 2 emissions" means all indirect emissions from sources that are owned or controlled by the state agency, including, but not limited to, emissions that result from the generation of electricity, heat, or steam purchased by the state agency from a utility provider.

(3) "State agency" means any state agency, board, department, or commission.

(b) It is the intent of the Legislature that all state agencies aim to achieve net-zero emissions of greenhouse gases resulting from their operations, including scope 1 and scope 2 emissions, no later than January 1, 2035, or as soon as feasible thereafter.

(c) In making progress toward the goal set forth in subdivision (b), the Department of General Services, in consultation with the State Air Resources Board, shall, to the extent feasible, do all of the following:

(1) On or before July 1, 2024, and annually thereafter until the goal set forth in subdivision (b) has been achieved, publish on its internet website or other publicly available location, an inventory of the greenhouse gas emissions of state agencies for the prior calendar year.

(2) On or before January 1, 2026, develop and publish, on its internet website or other publicly available location, a plan that describes required actions and investments for achieving the goal set forth in subdivision (b) and an estimate of the costs associated with the required actions and investments.

(3) Beginning June 30, 2028, and every two years thereafter until the goal set forth in subdivision (b) has been achieved, develop and publish, on its internet website or other publicly available location, an updated plan that includes a description of state agencies' progress, and any changes to the required actions and investments, toward achieving the goal set forth in subdivision (b).

(4) Ensure that the required actions and investments identified pursuant to paragraphs (2) and (3) are incorporated into the sustainability roadmaps of all state agencies.

(5) Subject to an appropriation by the Legislature, provide information, training, coordination, best practices, and other technical assistance to state agencies to help those state agencies implement the required actions and investments identified pursuant to paragraphs (2) and (3).

(d) State agencies shall incorporate the required actions and investments identified pursuant to subdivision (c) into their future budget proposals, subject to appropriation by the Legislature, in order to achieve the goal set forth in subdivision (b).

(e) Beginning December 31, 2027, and every two years thereafter, until the goal set forth in subdivision (b) is achieved, the Department of General Services shall report to the Legislature on the progress toward achieving that goal, including on both of the following:

(1) The overall greenhouse gas emissions from all state agencies and a summary of actions taken by state agencies since the submission of the last report.

(2) Barriers that are hindering progress and suggested actions that the Legislature could take to reduce those barriers.