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AB-2462 Public Utilities Commission: written reports: energy. (2023-2024)

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Assembly Bill No. 2462

CHAPTER 569

An act to amend Section 913.1 of the Public Utilities Code, relating to energy.

[Approved by Governor September 25, 2024. Filed with Secretary of State September 25, 2024.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2462, Calderon. Public Utilities Commission: written reports: energy.

Existing law vests the Public Utilities Commission with regulatory authority over public utilities, including electrical corporations and gas corporations. Existing law requires the commission to annually prepare and submit to the Governor and Legislature a written report that contains the commission's recommendations for actions that can be undertaken during the succeeding 12 months to limit utility cost and rate increases consistent with the state's energy and environmental goals, including goals for reducing emissions of greenhouse gases, and requires the commission, in preparing the report, to require certain electrical corporations and gas corporations to study and report on measures they recommend be undertaken to limit costs and rate increases.

This bill would require that the report also contain recommendations that may take longer than 12 months to implement, but could lead to substantial reductions in monthly electricity and natural gas utility bills, and considerations of how the adoption of decarbonization policies, including electrification, may impact total energy costs borne by consumers, as provided.

Under existing law, a violation of the Public Utilities Act or any order, decision, rule, direction, demand, or requirement of the commission is a crime.

Because the above provisions would be part of the act and a violation of a commission action implementing certain of these requirements would be a crime, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

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 Local Program: yes

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

SECTION 1. Section 913.1 of the Public Utilities Code is amended to read:

913.1. (a) The commission, by May 1, 2010, and by each May 1 thereafter, shall prepare and submit a written report, separate from and in addition to the report required by Section 913, to the Governor and Legislature that contains all of the following:

(1) The commission's recommendations for actions that can be undertaken during the succeeding 12 months to limit electrical corporations' and gas corporations' utility costs and rate increases.

(2) The commission's recommendations that may take longer than 12 months to implement, but could lead to substantial reductions in monthly electricity and natural gas utility bills.

(3) Considerations of how the adoption of decarbonization policies, including electrification, may impact the total energy costs borne by consumers, including electricity, natural gas, and fuel for transportation, consistent with the state's energy and environmental goals, including goals for reducing emissions of greenhouse gases.

(b) In preparing the report required by subdivision (a), the commission shall require electrical corporations with 1,000,000 or more retail customers in California, and gas corporations with 500,000 or more retail customers in California, to study and report on measures the corporation recommends be undertaken to limit costs and rate increases.

(c) The commission shall post the report required by subdivision (a) in a conspicuous area of its internet website.

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