



Home	Bill Information	California Law	Publications	Other Resources	My Subscriptions	My Favorites
------	------------------	----------------	--------------	-----------------	------------------	--------------

SB-506 Public Utilities Commission: railroads: colored pavements marking project. (2023-2024)

SHARE THIS:  

Date Published: 10/02/2023 02:00 PM

Senate Bill No. 506

CHAPTER 288

An act to add and repeal Section 1202.05 of the Public Utilities Code, relating to railroads.

[Approved by Governor September 30, 2023. Filed with Secretary of State September 30, 2023.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 506, Laird. Public Utilities Commission: railroads: colored pavements marking project.

The California Constitution establishes the Public Utilities Commission. Existing law provides the commission with the exclusive power to determine and prescribe the manner and terms of installation, operation, maintenance, use, and protection of specified railroad grade crossings. Existing law authorizes the commission to authorize and supervise the operation of pilot projects to evaluate proposed crossing warning devices, new technology, or other additional safety measures at designated crossings, with the consent of the local jurisdiction, the affected railroad, and other interested parties.

This bill would require the commission, to the extent permitted by federal law or regulation, to develop and implement a pilot or limited demonstration and research project for colored pavement markings at one or more at-grade highway-railroad crossings no later than January 1, 2026, to measure and evaluate the effectiveness of such a project to reduce incidents. The bill would require the commission to report its findings on the project to the Legislature no later than one year after project completion. The bill would repeal these provisions on January 1, 2030.

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 provisions of this bill are within the act and the commission may issue a new order, decision, rule, direction, demand, or requirement in connection with those provisions, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program by creating a new crime.

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 1202.05 is added to the Public Utilities Code, to read:

1202.05. (a) To the extent permitted by federal law or regulation, the commission shall develop and implement a pilot or limited demonstration and research project for colored pavement markings at one or more at-grade highway-railroad crossings no later than January 1, 2026, to measure and evaluate the effectiveness of such a project to reduce incidents. The commission shall report its findings to the Legislature no later than one year after project completion, in compliance with Section 9795 of the Government Code.

(b) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2030, and as of that date is repealed.

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.