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SB-1158 Carl Moyer Memorial Air Quality Standards Attainment Program. (2023-2024)

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Senate Bill No. 1158

CHAPTER 459

An act to amend Sections 44287 and 44299.2 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to air pollution.

[Approved by Governor September 22, 2024. Filed with Secretary of State September 22, 2024.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1158, Archuleta. Carl Moyer Memorial Air Quality Standards Attainment Program.

Existing law establishes the Carl Moyer Memorial Air Quality Standards Attainment Program (Carl Moyer Program), which is administered by the State Air Resources Board, to provide grants to offset the incremental cost of eligible projects that reduce emissions of air pollutants from sources in the state and for funding a fueling infrastructure demonstration program and technology development efforts. Existing law requires that funds be allocated under the program to local air districts for liquidation in accordance with grant criteria and guidelines adopted by the state board. Existing law provides that any funds reserved for a local air district by the state board are available for disbursement to the district for a period of not more than 2 years from the time of reservation. Existing law requires funds not liquidated by a district by June 30 of the 4th calendar year following the date of the reservation to be returned to the state board within 90 days for future allocation under the program. Beginning January 1, 2034, existing law reduces the deadline for that period of liquidation to June 30 of the 2nd calendar year following the date of reservation.

This bill would extend the deadline for the period of liquidation to June 30 of the 6th calendar year following the date of disbursement and would make other conforming changes.

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

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

SECTION 1. Section 44287 of the Health and Safety Code, as amended by Section 121 of Chapter 131 of the Statutes of 2023, is amended to read:

44287. (a) The state board shall establish grant criteria and guidelines consistent with this chapter for covered vehicle projects as soon as practicable, but not later than January 1, 2000. The adoption of guidelines is exempt from the rulemaking provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code. The state board shall solicit input and comment from the districts during the development of the criteria and guidelines and shall make every effort to develop criteria and guidelines that are compatible with existing district programs that are also consistent with this chapter. Guidelines shall include protocols to calculate project cost-effectiveness. The grant criteria and guidelines shall include safeguards to ensure that the project generates surplus emissions reductions. Guidelines shall enable and encourage districts to cofund projects that provide emissions reductions in more than one district. The state board

shall make draft criteria and guidelines available to the public 45 days before final adoption, and shall hold at least one public meeting to consider public comments before final adoption.

(b) The state board, in consultation with the participating districts, may propose revisions to the criteria and guidelines established pursuant to subdivision (a) as necessary to improve the ability of the program to achieve its goals. A proposed revision shall be made available to the public 45 days before final adoption of the revision and the state board shall hold at least one public meeting to consider public comments before final adoption of the revision.

(c) The state board shall reserve funds for, and disburse funds to, districts from the fund for administration pursuant to this section and Section 44299.1.

(d) The state board shall develop guidelines for a district to follow in applying for the reservation of funds, in accordance with this chapter. It is the intent of the Legislature that district administration of any reserved funds be in accordance with the project selection criteria specified in Sections 44281, 44282, and 44283 and all other provisions of this chapter. The guidelines shall be established and published by the state board as soon as practicable, but not later than January 1, 2000.

(e) Funds shall be reserved by the state board for administration by a district that adopts an eligible program pursuant to this chapter and offers matching funds at a ratio of one dollar (\$1) of matching funds committed by the district or the Mobile Source Air Pollution Reduction Review Committee for every two dollars (\$2) committed from the fund. Funds available to the Mobile Source Air Pollution Reduction Review Committee may be counted as matching funds for projects in the South Coast Air Basin only if the committee approves the use of these funds for matching purposes. Matching funds may be any funds under the district's budget authority that are committed to be expended in accordance with the program. Funds committed by a port authority or a local government, in cooperation with a district, to be expended in accordance with the program may also be counted as district matching funds. Matching funds provided by a port authority or a local government may not exceed 30 percent of the total required matching funds in any district that applies for more than three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000) of the state board funds. Only a district, or a port authority or a local government teamed with a district, may provide matching funds.

(f) The state board may adjust the ratio of matching funds described in subdivision (e), if it determines that an adjustment is necessary in order to maximize the use of, or the air quality benefits provided by, the program, based on a consideration of the financial resources of the district.

(g) Notwithstanding subdivision (e), a district need not provide matching funds for state board funds allocated to the district for program outreach activities pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 44299.1.

(h) A district may include within its matching funds a reasonable estimate of direct or in-kind costs for assistance in providing program outreach and application evaluation. In-kind and direct matching funds shall not exceed 15 percent of the total matching funds offered by a district. A district may also include within its matching funds any money spent on or after February 25, 1999, that would have qualified as matching funds but were not previously claimed as matching funds.

(i) A district desiring a reservation of funds shall apply to the state board following the application guidelines established pursuant to this section. The state board shall approve or disapprove a district application not later than 60 days after receipt. Upon approval of any district application, the state board shall simultaneously approve a reservation of funding for that district to administer. Reserved funds shall be disbursed to the district so that funding of a district-approved project is not impeded.

(j) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, districts and the Mobile Source Air Pollution Reduction Review Committee shall not use funds collected pursuant to Section 41081 or Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 44220), or pursuant to Section 9250.11 of the Vehicle Code, as matching funds to fund a project with stationary or portable engines, locomotives, or marine vessels.

(k) Any funds reserved for a district pursuant to this section are available to the district for a period of not more than two years from the time of reservation. Funds not expended by June 30 of the sixth calendar year following the date of disbursement shall revert back to the state board as of that June 30, and shall be deposited in the fund for use by the program. The funds may then be redirected based on applications to the fund. Regardless of any reversion of funds back to the state board, the district may continue to request other reservations of funds for local administration. Each reservation of funds shall be accounted for separately, and unused funds from each application shall revert back to the state board as specified in this subdivision.

(l) The state board shall specify a date each year when district applications are due. If the eligible applications received in any year oversubscribe the available funds, the state board shall reserve funds on an allocation basis, pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 44299.1. The state board may accept a district application after the due date for a period of months specified by the state board. Funds may be reserved in response to those applications, in accordance with this chapter, out of funds remaining after the original reservation of funds for the year.

(m) Guidelines for a district application shall require information from an applicant district to the extent necessary to meet the requirements of this chapter, but shall otherwise minimize the information required of a district.

(n) A district application shall be reviewed by the state board immediately upon receipt. If the state board determines that an application is incomplete, the applicant shall be notified within 10 working days with an explanation of what is missing from the application. A completed application fulfilling the criteria shall be approved as soon as practicable, but not later than 60 working days after receipt.

(o) The state board, in consultation with the districts, shall establish project approval criteria and guidelines for infrastructure projects consistent with Section 44284 as soon as practicable, but not later than February 15, 2000. The commission shall make draft criteria and guidelines available to the public 45 days before final adoption, and shall hold at least one public meeting to consider public comments before final adoption.

(p) The state board, in consultation with the participating districts, may propose revisions to the criteria and guidelines established pursuant to subdivision (o) as necessary to improve the ability of the program to achieve its goals. A revision may be proposed at any time, or may be proposed in response to a finding made in the annual report on the program published by the state board pursuant to Section 44295. A proposed revision shall be made available to the public 45 days before final adoption of the revision and the commission shall hold at least one public meeting to consider public comments before final adoption of the revision.

(q) This section shall become operative on January 1, 2034.

SEC. 2. Section 44287 of the Health and Safety Code, as amended by Section 122 of Chapter 131 of the Statutes of 2023, is amended to read:

44287. (a) The state board shall establish or update grant criteria and guidelines consistent with this chapter for covered vehicle and infrastructure projects as soon as practicable, but not later than July 1, 2017. The adoption of guidelines is exempt from the rulemaking provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act (Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code). The state board shall solicit input and comment from the districts during the development of the criteria and guidelines and shall make every effort to develop criteria and guidelines that are compatible with existing district programs that are also consistent with this chapter. Guidelines shall include protocols to calculate project cost-effectiveness. The grant criteria and guidelines shall include safeguards to ensure that the project generates surplus emissions reductions. Guidelines shall enable and encourage districts to cofund projects that provide emissions reductions in more than one district. The state board shall make draft criteria and guidelines available to the public 45 days before final adoption, and shall hold at least one public meeting to consider public comments before final adoption. The state board may develop separate guidelines and criteria for the different types of eligible projects described in subdivision (a) of Section 44281.

(b) The state board, in consultation with the participating districts, may propose revisions to the criteria and guidelines established pursuant to subdivision (a) as necessary to improve the ability of the program to achieve its goals. A proposed revision shall be made available to the public 45 days before final adoption of the revision and the state board shall hold at least one public meeting to consider public comments before final adoption of the revision.

(c) The state board shall reserve funds for, and disburse funds to, districts from the fund for administration pursuant to this section and Section 44299.1.

(d) The state board shall develop guidelines for a district to follow in applying for the reservation of funds, in accordance with this chapter. It is the intent of the Legislature that district administration of any reserved funds be in accordance with the project selection criteria specified in Sections 44281, 44282, and 44283 and all other provisions of this chapter. The guidelines shall be established and published by the state board as soon as practicable, but not later than January 1, 2006.

(e) Funds shall be reserved by the state board for administration by a district that adopts an eligible program pursuant to this chapter and offers matching funds at a ratio of one dollar (\$1) of matching funds committed by the district or the Mobile Source Air Pollution Reduction Review Committee for every two dollars (\$2) committed from the fund. Funds available to the Mobile Source Air Pollution Reduction Review Committee may be counted as matching funds for projects in the South Coast Air Basin only if the committee approves the use of these funds for matching purposes. Matching funds may be any funds under the district's budget authority that are committed to be expended in accordance with the program. Funds committed by a port authority or a local government, in cooperation with a district, to be expended in accordance with the program may also be counted as district matching funds. Matching funds provided by a port authority or a local government shall not exceed 30 percent of the total required matching funds in any district that applies for more than three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000) of the state board funds. Only a district, or a port authority or a local government teamed with a district, may provide matching funds.

(f) The state board may adjust the ratio of matching funds described in subdivision (e), if it determines that an adjustment is necessary in order to maximize the use of, or the air quality benefits provided by, the program, based on a consideration of the financial resources of the district.

(g) Notwithstanding subdivision (e), a district need not provide matching funds for state board funds allocated to the district for program outreach activities pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 44299.1.

(h) A district may include within its matching funds a reasonable estimate of direct or in-kind costs for assistance in providing program outreach and application evaluation. In-kind and direct matching funds shall not exceed 15 percent of the total matching funds offered by a district. A district may also include within its matching funds any money spent on or after February 25, 1999, that would have qualified as matching funds but were not previously claimed as matching funds.

(i) A district desiring a reservation of funds shall apply to the state board following the application guidelines established pursuant to this section. The state board shall approve or disapprove a district application not later than 60 days after receipt. Upon approval of any district application, the state board shall simultaneously approve a reservation of funding for that district to administer. Reserved funds shall be disbursed to the district so that funding of a district-approved project is not impeded.

(j) Any funds reserved for a district by the state board pursuant to this section are available for disbursement to the district for a period of not more than two years from the time of reservation. Funds not liquidated by a district by June 30 of the sixth calendar year following the date of disbursement shall be returned to the state board within 90 days for future allocation pursuant to this chapter. Each reservation of funds shall be accounted for separately, and unused funds from each application shall revert back to the state board for use pursuant to this chapter as specified in this subdivision.

(k) The state board shall specify a date each year when district applications are due. If the eligible applications received in any year oversubscribe the available funds, the state board shall reserve funds on an allocation basis, pursuant to Section 44299.2. The state board may accept a district application after the due date for a period of months specified by the state board. Funds may be reserved in response to those applications, in accordance with this chapter, out of funds remaining after the original reservation of funds for the year.

(l) Guidelines for a district application shall require information from an applicant district to the extent necessary to meet the requirements of this chapter, but shall otherwise minimize the information required of a district.

(m) A district application shall be reviewed by the state board immediately upon receipt. If the state board determines that an application is incomplete, the applicant shall be notified within 10 working days with an explanation of what is missing from the application. A completed application fulfilling the criteria shall be approved as soon as practicable, but not later than 60 working days after receipt.

(n) The commission, in consultation with the districts, shall establish project approval criteria and guidelines for infrastructure projects consistent with Section 44284 as soon as practicable, but not later than February 15, 2000. The commission shall make draft criteria and guidelines available to the public 45 days before final adoption, and shall hold at least one public meeting to consider public comments before final adoption.

(o) The commission, in consultation with the participating districts, may propose revisions to the criteria and guidelines established pursuant to subdivision (n) as necessary to improve the ability of the program to achieve its goals. A revision may be proposed at any time, or may be proposed in response to a finding made in the annual report on the program published by the state board pursuant to Section 44295. A proposed revision shall be made available to the public 45 days before final adoption of the revision and the commission shall hold at least one public meeting to consider public comments before final adoption of the revision.

(p) Unclaimed funds will be allocated by the state board in accordance with Section 44299.2.

(q) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2034, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that is enacted before January 1, 2034, deletes or extends that date.

SEC. 3. Section 44299.2 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:

44299.2. Funds shall be allocated to districts, and shall be subject to administrative terms and conditions as follows:

(a) Available funds shall be distributed to districts taking into consideration the population of the area, the severity of the air quality problems experienced by the population, and the historical allocation of the program funds, except that the south coast district shall be allocated a percentage of the total funds available to districts that is proportional to the percentage of the total state population residing within the jurisdictional boundaries of that district. For the purposes of this subdivision, population shall be determined by the state board based on the most recent data provided by the Department of Finance. The allocation to the south coast district shall be subtracted from the total funds available to districts. Each district, except the south coast district, shall be awarded a minimum allocation of two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000), and the remainder, which shall be known as the "allocation amount," shall be allocated to all districts as follows:

(1) The state board shall distribute 35 percent of the allocation amount to the districts in proportion to the percentage of the total residual state population that resides within each district's boundaries. For purposes of this paragraph, "total residual state population" means the total state population, less the total population that resides within the south coast district.

(2) The state board shall distribute 35 percent of the allocation amount to the districts in proportion to the severity of the air quality problems to which each district's population is exposed. The severity of the exposure shall be calculated as follows:

(A) Each district shall be awarded severity points based on the district's attainment designation and classification, as most recently promulgated by the federal Environmental Protection Agency for the National Ambient Air Quality Standard for ozone averaged over eight hours, as follows:

(i) A district that is designated attainment for the federal eight-hour ozone standard shall be awarded one point.

(ii) A district that is designated nonattainment for the federal eight-hour ozone standard shall be awarded severity points based on classification. Two points shall be awarded for transitional, basic, or marginal classifications, three points for moderate classification, four points for serious classification, five points for severe classification, six points for severe-17 classification, and seven points for extreme classification.

(B) Each district shall be awarded severity points based on the annual diesel particulate emissions in the air basin, as determined by the state board. One point shall be awarded to the district, in increments, for each 1,000 tons of diesel particulate emissions. In making this determination, 0 to 999 tons shall be awarded no points, 1,000 to 1,999 tons shall be awarded one point, 2,000 to 2,999 tons shall be awarded two points, and so forth. If a district encompasses more than one air basin, the air basin with the greatest diesel particulate emissions shall be used to determine the points awarded to the district. The San Diego County Air Pollution Control District and the Imperial County Air Pollution Control District shall be awarded one additional point each to account for annual diesel particulate emissions transported from Mexico.

(C) The points awarded under subparagraphs (A) and (B), shall be added together for each district, and the total shall be multiplied by the population residing within the district boundaries, to yield the local air quality exposure index.

(D) The local air quality exposure index for each district shall be summed together to yield a total state exposure index. Funds shall be allocated under this paragraph to each district in proportion to its local air quality exposure index divided by the total state exposure index.

(3) The state board shall distribute 30 percent of the allocation amount to the districts in proportion to the allocation of funds from the program moneys in the fund, as follows:

(A) Because each district is awarded a minimum allocation pursuant to subdivision (a), there shall be no additional minimum allocation from the program historical allocation funds. The total amount allocated in this way shall be subtracted from total funding previously awarded to the district under the program, and the remainder, which shall be known as directed funds, shall be allocated pursuant to subparagraph (B).

(B) Each district with a population that is greater than or equal to 1 percent of the state's population shall receive an additional allocation based on the population of the district and the district's relative share of emission reduction commitments in the state implementation plan to attain the National Ambient Air Quality Standard for ozone averaged over one hour. This additional allocation shall be calculated as a percentage share of the directed funds for each district, derived using a ratio of each district's share amount to the base amount, which shall be calculated as follows:

(i) The base amount shall be the total program funds allocated by the state board to the districts in the 2002–03 fiscal year, less the total of the funds allocated through the minimum allocation to each district in the 2002–03 fiscal year.

(ii) The share amount shall be the allocation that each district received in the 2002–03 fiscal year, not including the minimum allocation. There shall be one share amount for each district.

(iii) The percentage share shall be calculated for each district by dividing the district's share amount by the base amount, and multiplying the result by the total directed funds available under this subparagraph.

(b) Funds shall be distributed as expeditiously as reasonably practicable, and a report of the distribution shall be made available to the public.

(c) All funds allocated pursuant to this section shall be liquidated as provided for in the guidelines adopted pursuant to Section 44287.