

Introduced by Senator De LeónFebruary 17, 2017

An act to amend Section 399.11 of the Public Utilities Code, relating to energy.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 584, as introduced, De León. California Renewables Portfolio Standard Program.

Under existing law, the Public Utilities Commission has regulatory authority over public utilities, including electrical corporations, while local publicly owned electric utilities, as defined, are under the direction of their governing boards. The California Renewables Portfolio Standard Program requires the Public Utilities Commission to establish a renewables portfolio standard requiring all retail sellers, as defined, to procure a minimum quantity of electricity products from eligible renewable energy resources, as defined, so that the total kilowatthours of those products sold to their retail end-use customers achieves 25% of retail sales by December 31, 2016, 33% by December 31, 2020, 40% by December 31, 2024, 45% by December 31, 2027, and 50% by December 31, 2030. The program additionally requires each local publicly owned electric utility, as defined, to procure a minimum quantity of electricity products from eligible renewable energy resources to achieve the procurement requirements established by the program. The Legislature has separately declared that its intent in implementing the program is to attain, among other targets for sale of eligible renewable resources, the target of 50% of total retail sales of electricity by December 31, 2030.

This bill would revise those legislative findings and declarations to state that the goal of the program is to achieve that 50% target by

December 31, 2025, and for all electricity sold at retail to be generated by eligible renewable energy resources by December 31, 2045.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
 State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 399.11 of the Public Utilities Code is
 2 amended to read:
 3 399.11. The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:
 4 (a) In order to attain a target of generating 20 percent of total
 5 retail sales of electricity in California from eligible renewable
 6 energy resources by December 31, 2013, 33 percent by December
 7 31, 2020, ~~and 50 percent by December 31, 2030, 50 percent by~~
 8 ~~December 31, 2025, and 100 percent by December 31, 2045.~~ it is
 9 the intent of the Legislature that the commission and the Energy
 10 Commission implement the California Renewables Portfolio
 11 Standard Program described in this article.
 12 (b) Achieving the renewables portfolio standard through the
 13 procurement of various electricity products from eligible renewable
 14 energy resources is intended to provide unique benefits to
 15 California, including all of the following, each of which
 16 independently justifies the program:
 17 (1) Displacing fossil fuel consumption within the state.
 18 (2) Adding new electrical generating facilities in the
 19 transmission network within the Western Electricity Coordinating
 20 Council service area.
 21 (3) Reducing air pollution, particularly criteria pollutant
 22 emissions and toxic air contaminants, in the state.
 23 (4) Meeting the state’s climate change goals by reducing
 24 emissions of greenhouse gases associated with electrical generation.
 25 (5) Promoting stable retail rates for electric service.
 26 (6) Meeting the state’s need for a diversified and balanced
 27 energy generation portfolio.
 28 (7) Assistance with meeting the state’s resource adequacy
 29 requirements.
 30 (8) Contributing to the safe and reliable operation of the
 31 electrical grid, including providing predictable electrical supply,
 32 voltage support, lower line losses, and congestion relief.

1 (9) Implementing the state’s transmission and land use planning
2 activities related to development of eligible renewable energy
3 resources.

4 (c) The California Renewables Portfolio Standard Program is
5 intended to complement the Renewable Energy Resources Program
6 administered by the Energy Commission and established pursuant
7 to Chapter 8.6 (commencing with Section 25740) of Division 15
8 of the Public Resources Code.

9 (d) New and modified electric transmission facilities may be
10 necessary to facilitate the state achieving its renewables portfolio
11 standard targets.

12 (e) (1) Supplying electricity to California end-use customers
13 that is generated by eligible renewable energy resources is
14 necessary to improve California’s air quality and public health,
15 particularly in disadvantaged communities identified pursuant to
16 Section 39711 of the Health and Safety Code, and the commission
17 shall ensure rates are just and reasonable, and are not significantly
18 affected by the procurement requirements of this article. This
19 electricity may be generated anywhere in the interconnected grid
20 that includes many states, and areas of both Canada and Mexico.

21 (2) This article requires generating resources located outside of
22 California that are able to supply that electricity to California
23 end-use customers to be treated identically to generating resources
24 located within the state, without discrimination.

25 (3) California electrical corporations have already executed,
26 and the commission has approved, power purchase agreements
27 with eligible renewable energy resources located outside of
28 California that will supply electricity to California end-use
29 customers. These resources will fully count toward meeting the
30 renewables portfolio standard procurement requirements.