

2010

2009-2010 Legislative Summary

Assembly Committee on Utilities and Commerce

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CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE

**Assembly Committee on
Utilities & Commerce**



2009-2010

LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

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2009-10



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2009-2010 LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY



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Assembly Committee on Utilities and Commerce 2009 – 2010 Legislative Summary

Electricity

AB 40 (Smyth)

Requires the California Public Utilities Commission to review certain guidelines pertaining to real property located within a designated transmission corridor zone.

Last Action: Held in Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee.

AB 42 (Blakeslee)

Requires Pacific Gas and Electric Company to conduct seismic fault studies or surveys in areas at or near the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant in order to maintain reliable operation of the electrical grid and mitigate impacts to customer rates that could result from a seismic event.

Last Action: Vetoed by Governor.

AB 46 (Blakeslee)

Extends the sunset dates for the California Energy Commission grant and loan programs, from January 1, 2011 to January 1, 2012, for the Energy Conservation Assistance Account and from January 2, 2011 to January 1, 2016 for the Local Jurisdiction Energy Assistance Account.

Last Action: Amended in the Senate and re-referred to Senate Committee on Elections, Reapportionment and Constitutional Amendments.

AB 435 (De La Torre)

Requires each transmission owning utility to investigate and evaluate the feasibility of using high-technology conductors and other advanced transmission technology, and report the results of the investigation to the California Public Utilities Commission and the California Energy Commission by July 1, 2011.

Last Action: Held in Senate Appropriations Committee.

AB 560 (Skinner)

Increases the current cap on the amount of electricity that can be generated under the net-energy metering program from 2.5% to 5% of each utility's aggregate peak demand.

Last Action: Held in Senate Rules Committee.

AB 1110 (Fuentes)

Allows "advanced electrical distributed generation technologies" that have better efficiency ratings than cogeneration facilities to qualify for benefits given to cogeneration facilities.

Last Action: Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 508, Statutes of 2009.

AB 1305 (V. Manuel Perez)

Air pollution: imported electricity: mitigation fee. This bill would require any person that imports certain electricity into the state, or causes that electricity to be imported into the state, to pay up to a \$0.001 per kilowatthour air contaminant emission electricity generation mitigation fee for that electricity, but not to exceed the cost of mitigation, as determined by the state board.

Last Action: Held in Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee.

AB 1333 (Hagman)

Prohibits an electrical corporation from constructing an electrical transmission line that runs through a residential community unless it undertakes several requirements, such as compensating residential landowners near the transmission line for any reduction in property values.

Last Action: Held in Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee.

AB 1348 (Blakeslee)

Requires the investor-owned electrical utilities to submit fossil fuel procurement plans to the California Public Utilities Commission.

Last Action: Held in Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee.

AB 1536 (Blakeslee)

Expands eligibility for Self-Generation Incentive Program rebates to include energy- storage facilities.

Last Action: Held in Senate Rules Committee.

AB 1552 (Committee on Utilities and Commerce)

Provides that for a municipally owned coastal powerplant that is not new, as defined, the best available technology for a municipally owned powerplant shall be evaluated on a facility-wide basis using design flow.

Last Action: Held in Senate Rules Committee.

AB 2514 (Skinner)

Requires the California Public Utilities Commission, by March 1, 2012, to open a proceeding to determine appropriate targets, if any, for each load-serving entity to procure viable and cost-effective energy storage systems and, by October 1, 2013, to adopt an energy storage system procurement target, if determined to be appropriate, to be achieved by each load-serving entity by December 31, 2015, and a 2nd target to be achieved by December 31, 2020.

Last Action: Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 469, Statutes of 2010.

AB 2519 (Arambula)

Requires the electric utility to aggregate the electrical load of the agricultural customer under the same ownership located on property adjacent or contiguous to the generation facility, for the purposes of determining whether an agricultural customer-generator using wind or solar electric generation is a net consumer or a net surplus customer-generator during a 12-month period.

Last Action: Held in Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee.

AB 2662 (Hagman)

Prohibits an electrical corporation from constructing substantially larger transmission towers in an easement intended for smaller transmission towers when the easement runs through an occupied residential area.

Last Action: Held in Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee.

AB 2693 (Blumenfield)

Expands eligibility to joint power authorities to participate in an existing program that allows a local government entity to receive a credit on their electric bill for power generated by a renewable energy facility owned by the local government that generates more energy than is needed to serve the electrical load at the site where the facility is located.

Last Action: Held in Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee.

SB 17 (Padilla)

Requires the California Public Utilities Commission, in consultation with other state agencies and key stakeholders, to determine the requirements for a smart grid deployment plan and requires the utilities to submit smart grid plans to the California Public Utilities Commission.

Last Action: Chaptered by Secretary of State. Chapter 327, Statutes of 2009.

SB 412 (Kehoe)

Extends the sunset date of the self-generation incentive program through January 1, 2016, restricts the amount the California Public Utilities Commission can direct the utilities to collect, and expands the eligible resources to include all self-generation technologies PUC determines will support the state's goals for the reduction of emissions of greenhouse gases, that meet specified efficiency standards.

Last Action: Chaptered by Secretary of State. Chapter 182, Statutes of 2009.

SB 655 (Padilla)

Requires the California Independent System Operator to appear annually before the appropriate policy committees of the Senate and the Assembly to report on California Independent System Operator's activities, and states legislative intent that California Independent System Operator take all necessary steps to ensure that the transmission grid is secure from intrusion by unauthorized persons or entities.

Last Action: Amended and re-referred to Senate Revenue and Taxation Committee.

SB 695 (Kehoe)

Eliminates the current rate freeze for electricity usage for residential customers of up to 130% of the baseline rate, lifts the current suspension and provides limited expansion of direct-access electricity service, restricts the deployment of mandatory time-variant pricing, provides a number of other measures to stabilize rates, protect low-income customers, and address emergency measures instituted during the 2001 energy crisis.

Last Action: Chaptered by Secretary of State. Chapter 337, Statutes of 2009.

Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency

AB 44 (Blakeslee)

Creates incentives for investor owned utilities and non-utility companies to build energy storage devices produced from renewable facilities.

Last Action: Held in Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee.

AB 51 (Blakeslee)

Requires the California Public Utilities Commission to limit to 10% the administrative costs of energy efficiency programs funded and operated by the investor-owned utilities. *Last Action:*

Last Action: Held in Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee.

AB 64 (Krekorian)

Increases the Renewables Portfolio Standard which requires utilities to procure 20% of their generation from renewable resources by 2010, to 33% by 2020.

Last Action: Vetoed by Governor.

AB 222 (Adams)

Allows facilities that convert solid waste into energy or chemicals to count as a renewable electricity generation facility for the purpose of California's Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS). It also allows local governments to count solid waste that is converted into electricity or chemicals toward their recycling diversion goals.

Last Action: Held in Senate Environmental Quality Committee.

AB 228 (Huffman)

Requires the California Energy Commission to adopt minimum energy efficiency standards that would reduce statewide electricity consumption from outdoor lighting as soon as practicable.

Last Action: Held in Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee.

AB 234 (Huffman)

Requires the California Energy Commission to direct funding received for energy efficiency measures pursuant to the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 to programs that result in both energy and water savings.

Last Action: Held in Senate Appropriations Committee.

AB 432 (Nestande)

Creates a pilot project in the City of Palm Desert for feed-in tariffs for solar electricity generators that have a capacity of less than 1.5 megawatts.

Last Action: Held in Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee.

AB 531 (Saldana)

Revises a provision of current law that requires that an owner or operator of a nonresidential building to disclose Energy Star Portfolio Manager benchmarking data to a prospective buyer, lessee of the entire building, or lender to instead do so based on a schedule of compliance established by the California Energy Commission.

Last Action: Chaptered by Secretary of State Chapter 323, Statutes of 2009.

AB 758 (Skinner)

Requires the California Energy Commission to develop and implement a comprehensive program to achieve greater energy savings in existing residential and nonresidential building stock, including energy assessments, cost-effective energy efficiency improvements, financing options, public outreach, and education efforts.

Last Action: Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 470, Statutes of 2009.

AB 915 (Logue)

Provides that when a retail seller is calculating the amount of eligible renewable electricity it must procure to meet renewable portfolio standard obligation, the retail seller may subtract the portion of retail sales that are met by hydroelectric facilities that are larger than 30 megawatts from its total retail sales. This effectively reduces the RPS obligation of any retail seller of electricity that procures some electricity from large hydroelectric facilities.

Last Action: Held in Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee.

AB 920 (Huffman)

Expands the current net-metering programs for wind and solar to allow the net-metered customers to sell any excess electricity they produce over the course of a year to their electric utility.

Last Action: Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 376, Statutes of 2009.

AB 1023 (Ruskin)

Requires the California Public Utilities Commission to develop a feed-in tariff program for eligible renewable electric generation that is less than 10 megawatts in size.

Last Action: Held in Assembly Natural Resources.

AB 1027 (Blumenfield)

Requires the California Energy Commission to administer a solar schools and nonprofits program to encourage schools, hospitals, and specified nonprofits to install solar energy systems and intends to use moneys from the Williams Settlement Agreement.

Last Action: Held in Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee.

AB 1031 (Blumenfield)

Expands a program that allows local governments to generate renewable energy from one facility and credit excess electricity exported to the grid against the generation charges of other local government facilities, to also apply to college campuses.

Last Action: Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 380, Statutes of 2009.

AB 1106 (Fuentes)

Requires the California Public Utilities Commission to develop a feed-in tariff for eligible renewable electric generation that is less than 20 megawatts in size.

Last Action: Held in Senate Appropriations Committee.

AB 1111 (Blakeslee)

Authorizes the California Alternative Energy and Advanced Transportation Financing Authority (Financing Authority) to recommend to the Board of Equalization that certain projects be exempt from sales and use tax.

Last Action: Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee.

AB 1173 (Huffman)

Prohibits retail sellers of electricity from using funds intended to promote energy efficiency efforts for compact florescent lights that do not meet specified standards.

Last Action: Vetoed by Governor.

AB 1351 (Blakeslee)

Amends current law that allows for incremental increases in electricity production from hydroelectric facilities to count toward a retail seller's Renewable Portfolio Standard obligation if the hydroelectric facilities are certified by the California State Water Resources Control Board (Water Board) to allow out-of-state facilities to be certified by the appropriate board in that state.

Last Action: Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 525, Statutes of 2009.

AB 1371 (Smyth)

States that the use of potable domestic water for cooling towers that are part of a renewable generating facility is a reasonable use of water if the facility was certified pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act.

Last Action: Held in Assembly Natural Resources Committee.

AB 1551 (Committee on Utilities and Commerce)

Corrects language that inadvertently restricted the size of all projects financed by California Alternative Energy and Advanced Transportation Financing Authority (Financing Authority) when the language was intended to only apply to energy generation projects that are implemented under power purchase agreements. Clarifies that California Solar Initiative low-income incentive payments are made available to owner-occupied, deed-restricted single-family housing in addition to rental units.

Last Action: Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 336, Statutes of 2009.

AB 1915 (Davis)

Requires the California Public Utilities Commission to implement a strategy to expand the participation rates of multiunit residential and commercial rental properties in utility energy efficiency and solar energy programs in accordance with prescribed program requirements. The commission would be required to prepare and submit a report on that program to the Legislature.

Last Action: Amended and re-referred to Revenue and Taxation Committee

AB 1923 (Evans)

Authorizes moneys allocated by the California Public Utilities Commission for research, development, and demonstration pursuant to the California Solar Initiative, to be used for research, development, and demonstration for antitheft technology to protect investments in solar energy systems.

Last Action: Vetoed by Governor.

AB 1947 (Fong)

Authorizes a local publicly owned electric utility to adopt, implement, and finance a solar initiative program exempt from those offset and same-premises program requirements, where residential and business consumers offset part or all of their electricity demand with electricity generated by a solar energy system not located on the premises of the consumer, if the program meets certain requirements.

Last Action: Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 459, Statutes of 2010.

AB 1954 (Skinner)

Provides that an application by an electrical corporation for a certificate of public convenience and necessity for new transmission facilities is necessary to the provision of electric service if the California Public Utilities Commission finds that the new transmission facility is necessary to facilitate achievement of the renewables portfolio standard. The bill would authorize the California Public Utilities Commission to approve the recovery in retail rates by an electrical corporation of certain costs for transmission facilities that are incurred in certain circumstances if not approved for recovery in transmission rates by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

Last Action: Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 460, Statutes of 2010.

AB 2061 (Carter)

This bill would require the California Public Utilities Commission, using existing resources and in consultation with the California Energy Commission, the California Independent System Operator, electrical transmission and distribution owners, users, and consumers, to the extent feasible, to develop electric transmission and distribution efficiency measures applicable to electrical corporations.

Last Action: Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee.

AB 2296 (Saldana)

Existing law requires the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission, in consultation with specified entities, to establish eligibility criteria for solar energy systems receiving ratepayer funded incentives including, among other things, that the solar energy system be located on the same premises of the end-use consumer where the consumer's own electricity demand is located. This bill would expand the eligibility to include a solar energy system that is located on a near-site location to the end-use consumer.

Last Action: Held in Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee.

AB 2589 (Tran)

Allows personal and corporate income tax credits of 1.8 cents per kilowatt hour for electricity produced by a dual renewable energy device by qualified producers at facilities located in the state or within three miles offshore.

Last Action: Held in Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee.

AB 2614 (John A. Perez)

Requires the California Energy Commission, upon enactment of the federal Home Star Energy Retrofit Act of 2010, to develop programs to complement the Act by establishing a quality assurance program, thus ensuring a qualified pool of home energy inspectors are available to perform energy audits, the requisite audits are performed, and various financing options are developed.

Last Action: Held in Senate.

AB 2693 (Blumenfield)

Expands eligibility to joint power authorities to participate in an existing program that allows a local government entity to receive a credit on their electric bill for power generated by a renewable energy facility owned by the local government that generates more energy than is needed to serve the electrical load at the site where the facility is located.

Last Action: Held in Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee.

SB 7 (Wiggins)

Allows net-metered customers who use wind and solar to produce more electricity than they consume in a given year to carry the credits for the excess production forward and apply those credits against excess consumption for up to two years.

Last Action: Held in Assembly Rules Committee.

SB 14 (Simitian)

Increases California's Renewables Portfolio Standard to require all retail sellers of electricity and all publicly owned utilities to procure at least 33% of electricity delivered to their retail customers from renewable resources by 2020. Makes changes to current renewable procurement rules and procedures for siting renewable generation and transmission.

Last Action: Vetoed by Governor.

SB 32 (Negrete McLeod)

Expands the current feed-in-tariff program to allow for renewable resources that are up to 3 megawatts in size to qualify and to require the California Public Utilities Commission to include the value of environmental compliance costs in the rate paid to generators under the feed-in-tariff.

Last Action: Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 328, Statutes of 2009.

SB 62 (Simitian)

Corrects a clerical error in SB 14 (Simitian) to provide that a new Renewables Portfolio Standard enacted into law will match a version pre-approved by the Assembly Committee on Utilities and Commerce.

Last Action: Vetoed by Governor.

SB 363 (Hancock)

Creates the Solar School Subaccount in the State Energy Conservation Assistance Account to provide low-interest loans to schools to be used for the installation of solar energy systems.

Last Action: Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee.

SB 542 (Wiggins)

Requires the California Public Utilities Commission to develop and implement a strategy to expand the inclusion of multi-tenant buildings in energy efficiency and solar energy programs.

Last Action: Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee.

SB 581 (Leno)

Allows the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission to designate all renewable electric generation facilities to be eligible for a unique arrangement where Pacific Gas and Electric Company is required to take electricity from a San Francisco Public Utilities Commission generator to offset the City of San Francisco's municipal load.

Last Action: Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 598, Statutes of 2009.

SBX8 34 (Padilla)

Permits a solar thermal project developer that is eligible for American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (Recovery Act) grants to elect to purchase its environmental mitigation obligations required by the Endangered Species Act, through the Department of Fish and Game. In addition, the bill provides other measures intended to facilitate development of solar resources in the Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan (Desert Plan) planning area.

Last Action: Amended and re-referred to Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee.

Natural Gas**AB 2162 (Niello)**

Provides that the existing prohibition upon specified public utilities condemning property if they offer competitive services does not apply to a gas corporation seeking to develop a natural gas storage facility in a natural gas reservoir if the need for the storage project at the proposed location was determined in an evidentiary hearing before the commission pursuant to an application for a certificate of public convenience and necessity.

Last Action: Held in Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee.

AB 2441 (Tom Berryhill)

Requires the California Public Utilities Commission to open a ratemaking or other appropriate proceeding to reexamine the allocation of the natural gas surcharge on the different ratepayer classes and would require the commission to consider job creation, job retention, and job training as part of the reexamination.

Last Action: Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee.

Consumer Protection & Low Income Assistance**AB 413 (Fuentes)**

Eliminates the current rate freeze for electricity usage for residential customers of up to 130% of the baseline rate, lifts the current suspension and provides limited expansion of direct-access electricity service, and provides a number of other rate stabilization measures to address emergency measures instituted during the 2001 energy crisis by ABX1 1 (Keeley), Chapter 4, Statutes of 2001.

Last Action: Held in Senate Appropriations Committee.

AB 636 (Jones)

Requires the California Public Utilities Commission to permanently revoke the authority of a charter-party carrier if the carrier knowingly employs a non-licensed or inappropriately licensed driver, suspend the license for five years of a person who drives a bus for a charter-party carrier who lacks the proper license of the proper class, requires a California Highway Patrol officer to

impound the bus if driven by a non-licensed driver, and imposes other new restrictions and requirements on charter-party carriers.

Last Action: Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 248, Statutes of 2009.

AB 709 (Lieu)

Requires the California Public Utilities Commission to adopt rules requiring that a complete criminal history background check be conducted and identification credential be issued for drivers of charter-party carriers that serve most of the larger airports.

Last Action: Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee.

AB 771 (Torres)

Existing law prohibits a publicly owned utility or an investor owned utility from terminating residential service for nonpayment of a delinquent account in specified situations.

Last Action: Held in Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee.

AB 1316 (Ma)

Expands the size and responsibilities of the Low Income Oversight Board within the California Public Utilities Commission.

Last Action: Held in Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee.

SB 120 (Lowenthal)

Allows residents of single-unit dwellings to take over a utility service account when the account is in arrears by the owner and pending termination. Requires the utility to provide notification of service termination in writing and in multiple languages, as specified.

Last Action: Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 560, Statutes of 2009.

SB 176 (Simitian)

Electricity: charges: charitable organizations. Extends the sunset date from 2010 to 2015 on a program that allows an electric service provider to donate free electric service to a nonprofit charitable organization.

Last Action: Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 36, Statutes of 2009.

SB 1476 (Padilla)

Requires an investor-owned utility or publicly owned utility using advanced metering (smart meters) to protect consumers' energy usage data from an unauthorized access or disclosure, and prohibits investor-owned utilities and publicly owned utilities from certain activities.

Last Action: Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 497, Statutes of 2010.

Communications

AB 423 (Torres)

Requires the review of technical and operational standards for 911 systems by the Office of the Chief Information Officer.

Last Action: Vetoed by Governor.

AB 437 (Yamada)

Prohibits a mobile telephony service provider from directing a customer to a sales representative for the provider when the customer attempts to use the service to complete a telephone call to a person or business other than the provider.

Last Action: Held in Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee.

AB 639 (Torlakson)

Requires the California Public Utilities Commission to assess and collect a monthly surcharge from every telephone customer for intrastate communications to fund poison control centers and 911 emergency call centers.

Last Action: Held in Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee.

AB 910 (De La Torre)

Defines for purposes of the "911" surcharge act "prepaid communications service" to include prepaid calling card telephone service and prepaid wireless service. Makes legislative findings and declarations regarding equitable contributions to the funding of 911 systems by consumers of prepaid communications services.

Last Action: Held in Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee.

AB 912 (Torres)

Provides that 0.25% of the charges for intrastate telecommunications services and voice-over-internet-protocol service to which an existing surcharge applies may be used for a one-time payment to primary Public Safety Answering Points for costs necessary to recruit and train additional personnel necessary to accept wireless enhanced "911" calls from within their jurisdiction routed directly to their call centers.

Last Action: Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 489, Statutes of 2009.

AB 1012 (V. Manuel Perez)

Requires the State Chief Information Officer to establish a strategy to maximize federal funding opportunities pursuant to the federal Recovery Act and the federal Broadband Data Improvement Act that are directed for broadband-related activities, programs or projects.

Last Action: Held in Senate Appropriations Committee.

AB 1184 (Adams)

Adds government officials making calls for government purposes to the list of organizations that are not prohibited from operating automatic dialing-announcing devices.

Last Action: Held in Senate Appropriations Committee.

AB 1480 (Tran)

Provides that the definition of a telephone corporation does not include any service using voice communication technology primarily to allow individual users to navigate and retrieve information from the Internet, as defined.

Last Action: Held in Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee.

AB 1497 (Hall)

Provides that the cost of intervenor fees awarded for proceedings related to specific telephone corporations shall be paid from the California Public Utilities Commission's intervenor compensation fund and not by the telephone corporation.

Last Action: Held in Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee.

AB 1528 (Ruskin)

Prohibits the California Public Utilities Commission from authorizing an increase in rates for low-income telephone customers (Lifeline service) beyond a specified cost-of-living adjustment. Prohibits the California Public Utilities Commission from authorizing Lifeline discounts to telephone corporations using alternative technologies other than traditional wireline telephone service unless the California Public Utilities Commission finds that there will be no reduction in service quality for those customers.

Last Action: Held in Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee.

AB 1553 (Fuentes)

Extends the sunset date on the law which subsidizes the cost of telephone services and equipment for deaf and disabled customers to January 1, 2014.

Last Action: Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 300, Statutes of 2009.

AB 1555 (V. Manuel Perez)

Establishes that for the sole purposes of receiving matching funds to finance broadband projects from the federal Recovery Act, any entity that meets the eligibility standards of the Recovery Act shall also be eligible to apply for funding from the California Advanced Services Fund.

Last Action: Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 24, Statutes of 2009.

AB 1679 (Torres)

Designates the second full week of April of each year as California Public Safety Telecommunicators Week for the purpose of heightening citizen awareness of the great importance of 911 service and its role in keeping the public safe.

Last Action: Vetoed by Governor.

AB 2213 (Fuentes)

Replaces the definition of "residential" in the Moore Universal Telephone Service Act with a definition of "household" and would make conforming changes. Existing law requires that a lifeline telephone service subscriber be provided with one single party line at his or her principal place of residence. This bill would instead require that a lifeline telephone service subscriber be provided with one lifeline subscription, as defined by the commission, at his or her principal place of residence.

Last Action: Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter, 381, Statutes of 2010.

AB 2545 (De La Torre)

Requires the California Public Utilities Commission to conduct a public process to consult with, and hear comments from, interested parties, for the purpose of developing recommendations for an equitable and uniform method of collecting state and local communications taxes, fees, and surcharges from prepaid communications end-user consumers, and to report those recommendations to the Legislature.

Last Action: Held in Senate.

AB 2690 (De La Torre)

Requires a telephone corporation, by January 1, 2012, and each January 1 thereafter, to post on its Internet Web site certain information relative to calls placed to a customer call center for the telephone corporation.

Last Action: Held in Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee.

AB 2737 (Block)

Permits the California Public Utilities Commission to designate a lead entity for the implementation of a 2-1-1 abbreviated telephone dialing system throughout the state.

Last Action: Held in Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee.

SB 1462 (Padilla)

Establishes an eight-member California Broadband Council to promote broadband deployment and adoption throughout the state, and requires the council to ensure that state agencies are coordinating efforts and resources to promote broadband deployment and adoption.

Last Action: Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 338, Statutes of 2010.

Regulatory

AB 698 (Skinner)

Modifies certain eligibility requirements for expedited review of low-value transactions made by public utilities.

Last Action: Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 370, Statutes of 2009.

AB 901 (Davis)

Requires the California Public Utilities Commission to include corporate responsibilities, diversity, philanthropy, and employee compensation principals to be followed by all public utilities under rate-of-return regulations.

Last Action: Held in Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee.

AB 951 (Lieu)

Increases the range of various fines the California Public Utilities Commission can impose on charter-party carriers who knowingly violate state laws and California Public Utilities Commission regulations.

Last Action: Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 263, Statutes of 2009.

AB 1016 (Villines)

Reorganizes and consolidates some of the state's numerous energy-related agencies and creates a Department of Energy.

Last Action: Held in Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee.

AB 1108 (Fuentes)

Establishes a process under which owners of master-metered mobilehome parks currently providing gas or electric service to their residents in a manner which is unsafe or unreliable, to transfer the responsibility for providing service to the local gas or electrical corporation.

Last Action: Held in Senate Appropriations Committee.

AB 1283 (Smyth)

Requires the California Public Utilities Commission to advise the Legislature whenever there is a bill pending that may have an effect on the reliability of the electrical transmission and distribution system, possible energy supply shortages, the ability of a utility to meet its renewable portfolio standard, or its greenhouse gas emission goals.

Last Action: Held in Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee.

AB 2572 (Bradford)

Expands the definition of a "charter-party carrier" to include any person, or entity engaged in providing transportation service where the vehicle is rented and is operated by a for-hire driver. Changes certificate renewal fees and imposes additional enforcement provisions to allow the California Public Utilities Commission to exercise enforcement techniques.

Last Action: Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 472, Statutes of 2010.

AB 2768 (Committee on Utilities and Commerce)

Updates various sections of the Public Resources code to provide a gender-neutral terms, from "chairman" to "chair." Makes a number of minor technical changes that do not substantially affect state law.

Last Action: Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 213, Statutes of 2010.

AB 2769 (Committee on Utilities and Commerce)

Combines two disparate code sections that relate to requirement that the president of the California Public Utilities Commission appear before the Legislature to report on the annual work plan, and the requirement that develop the annual work plan.

Last Action: Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 447, Statutes of 2010.

AB X3 33 (Villines)

Reforms the California Energy Commission, a state entity under the Resources Agency, into a cabinet-level Department of Energy, and adds energy-related responsibilities previously performed by the Electricity Oversight Board and the Department of Community Services and Development.

Last Action: Held in Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee.

SB 412 (Kehoe)

Extends the sunset date of the self-generation incentive program through January 1, 2016, restricts the amount the California Public Utilities Commission can direct the utilities to collect, and expands the eligible resources to include all self-generation technologies California Public Utilities Commission determines will support the state's goals for the reduction of emissions of greenhouse gases, that meet specified efficiency standards.

Last Action: Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 182, Statutes of 2010.

SB 1414 (Kehoe)

This bill creates a deadline for the California Public Utilities Commission to either grant or deny, in part or in whole, an application for rehearing.

Last Action: Vetoed by Governor.

Administrative**AB 3 (V. Manuel Perez)**

Requires the California Public Utilities Commission to establish a Renewable Energy Workforce Readiness Program, award training grants for green-job training and placement programs, and prioritizes grant applicants that target specified populations.

Last Action: Vetoed by Governor.

AB 162 (Ruskin)

Changes and consolidates certain reporting requirements for publicly owned utilities.

Last Action: Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 313, Statutes of 2009.

AB 262 (Bass)

Provides direction and authorization to the California Energy Commission regarding the use of money received pursuant to the federal Recovery Act for energy-related activities.

Last Action: Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 227, Statutes of 2009.

AB 380 (De La Torre)

Requires the Secretary of Labor and Workforce Development Agency to create the California Clean Energy Curriculum and Training Initiative of 2009 that will establish a standardized curriculum for clean energy job training programs.

Last Action: Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee.

AB 521 (De La Torre)

Requires the California Public Utilities Commission to consider additional benefits when evaluating lease proposals in order to encourage the use of utility property for public parks.

Last Action: Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 448, Statutes of 2009.

AB 863 (Niello)

Increases the maximum percentage of exempt employees the board of a utility district meeting specific criteria may appoint, from 2% to 5% of the total civil service positions of the district.

Last Action: Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 127, Statutes of 2009.

AB 1315 (Ruskin)

Changes the appointment process for the president of the California Public Utilities Commission to require the president to be re-confirmed by the Senate, and has the attorney, executive director, and staff report to the commission rather than the president.

Last Action: Held in Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee.

AB 1318 (V. Manuel Perez)

Requires the Air Resources Board to prepare a report that evaluates the electrical system reliability needs of the South Coast Air Basin, requires the executive officer of the South Coast Air Quality Management District to transfer emission reduction credits from its internal emission credit accounts to eligible electrical generating facilities, and establishes eligibility criteria.

Last Action: Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 285, Statutes of 2009.

AB 2561 (Villines)

Consolidates existing departments and creates the Department of Energy, headed by a Secretary of Energy, and would create the California Energy Board within the department.

Last Action: Held in Senate Rules Committee.

SB 388 (Calderon)

Requires the executive officer of the South Coast Air Quality Management District to transfer emission reduction credits from its internal emission credit accounts to eligible electrical generating facilities, and establishes eligibility criteria so that the powerplant must have a purchase agreement, be under the jurisdiction of the south coast district, and within the City of Industry.

Last Action: Held in Senate.

SB 488 (Pavley)

Requires publicly-owned utilities and investor-owned utilities that provide individual residential electricity or gas customers with information comparing their energy use with similar residences to report to the state on the energy savings resulting from such programs.

Last Action: Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 352, Statutes of 2009.

SB 450 (Lowenthal)

Permits the South Coast Air Quality Management District to issue air permits for certain exempt facilities and essential public service facilities, notwithstanding the Superior Court decision in Natural Resources Defense Council v. South Coast Air Quality Management District.

Last Action: Amended and re-referred to Assembly Education Committee.

SB 827 (Wright)

Permits the South Coast Air Quality Management District to issue air permits for certain exempt facilities and essential public service facilities, notwithstanding the Superior Court decision in Natural Resources Defense Council v. South Coast Air Quality Management District.

Last Action: Chaptered by Secretary of State. Chapter 206, Statutes of 2009.

AB 1686 (Jeffries)

Prohibits the South Coast Air Quality Management District from imposing requirements, or engaging in actions, that would prevent the operation, use, or maintenance of diesel-powered generators that would provide either primary or back-up electricity to specified facilities.

Last Action: Held in Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee.

AB 1879 (Beall)

Requires the California Public Utilities Commission to open a proceeding to examine whether the 3-year limit on billing adjustments for meter and billing errors is an appropriate timeframe for small commercial customers of gas corporations and electrical corporations.

Last Action: Vetoed by Governor.

AB 2037 (V. Manuel Perez)

Prohibits a load-serving entity or local publicly owned electric utility from entering into, and would prohibit the California Public Utilities Commission from approving for an electrical corporation, a long-term financial commitment with or for a new electrical generation facility constructed in California, or in a shared pollution area, as defined, that does not meet specified air pollution criteria.

Last Action: Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 422, Statutes of 2010.

AB 2132 (Carter)

Expands eligibility for the Renewable Energy Resources Program (Renewables Program) to allow energy efficiency improvements in buildings built before January 1, 1978, including multi-family housing to qualify for grants from the Renewable Resources Trust Fund.

Last Action: Held in Senate Appropriations Committee.

AB 2207 (Fong)

Requires a gas or electrical corporation to implement specified practices, including prescribed bill payment plans for customers who are subject to termination of service for nonpayment of a delinquent bill, and a prohibition on requiring specified low-income customers to pay reestablishment of credit deposits unless the low-income customer's service has been terminated for nonpayment of bills.

Last Action: Held in Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee.

AB 2378 (Tran)

Includes any combination of the renewable resources to qualify as an eligible renewable energy device under the California Energy Commission's Renewables Program and for Renewable Portfolio Standard compliance.

Last Action: Held in Senate.

AB 2467 (Monning)

Existing law requires the California Public Utilities Commission to implement programs to provide services to the deaf and hearing impaired. This bill would require, rather than authorize, the commission to adopt rules and regulations and issue decisions and orders, as necessary, to safeguard the rights of consumers and to enforce those provisions.

Last Action: Amended and re-referred to Assembly Elections and Redistricting Committee.

AB 2498 (Skinner)

Updates the definition of a combined heat and power system to require compliance with greenhouse gas emission reduction measures adopted by the California Air Resources Board, pursuant to AB 32 (Nunez) Chapter 488, Statutes of 2006.

Last Action: Held in Senate Revenue and Taxation Committee.

AB 2742 (Blakeslee)

California Alternative Energy and Advanced Transportation Financing Authority. This bill would include as a project, machinery or equipment that is utilized for the design, technology transfer, manufacture, production, assembly, distribution, or service of an alternative source product, component, or system. The bill would also expand the definition of "alternative sources" to include advanced electric distributive generation technology, as defined, and would expand the definition of "advanced transportation technologies" to include energy storage technologies and their component materials.

Last Action: amended and re-referred to Public Employees, Retirement and Social Security Committee

AB 2758 (Bradford)

Specifies that reporting by utilities regulated by the California Public Utilities Commission, include renewable energy, wireless telecommunications, broadband, smart grid and rail projects as categories for which utilities should increase procurement from women, minority and disabled veteran business enterprises.

Last Action: Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 475, Statutes of 2010.

AJR 43 (Hill)

Urges the Congress and President of the United States to enact legislation to establish a standard that broadcasters and others can use to minimize the "audio loudness differential" in television.

Last Action: Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 165, Statutes of 2010.

SB 7 (Wiggins)

Allows net-metered customers who use wind and solar to produce more electricity than they consume in a given year to carry the credits for the excess production forward and apply those credits against excess consumption for up to two years.

Last Action: Amended in Assembly and re-referred to Assembly Rules Committee.

SB 32 (Negrete-McLeod)

Expands the current feed-in-tariff program to allow for renewable resources that are up to three megawatts (MWs) in size to qualify and to require the California Public Utilities Commission to include the value of environmental compliance costs in the rate paid to generators under the feed-in-tariff.

Last Action: Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 328, Statutes of 2009.

SB 120 (Lowenthal)

Authorizes a tenant or occupant who has made a payment to a public utility or publicly owned utility to deduct the amount of the payment from the rent when due, as specified.

Last Action: Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 560, Statutes of 2009.

SB 388 (Calderon)

Requires the executive officer of the South Coast Air Quality Management District to transfer emission reduction credits from its internal emission credit accounts to eligible electrical generating facilities, and establishes eligibility criteria so that the powerplant must have a purchase agreement and be under the jurisdiction of the south coast district and within the City of Industry.

Last Action: Held in Senate Rules Committee.

SB 1435 (Padilla)

Requires California Public Utilities Commission to adopt rules as it deems necessary for the charging of plug-in electric vehicles.

Last Action: Held in Assembly.

SB 1455 (Kehoe)

Requires the California Energy Commission, in consultation with the California Public Utilities Commission to develop and maintain an Internet Web site containing specific links to public utilities' web sites that contain information specific to plug-in hybrid or fully electric vehicles.

Last Action: Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 337, Statutes of 2010.

SB 1467 (Padilla)

Requires the chair of the California Energy Commission to appear annually before the appropriate policy committees of the Senate and Assembly to report on the activities of the commission. Recasts and revises the provision for the California Public Utilities Commission to annually appear before the appropriate policy committees of the Senate and Assembly to report on California Public Utilities Commission annual work plan and activities.

Last Action: Vetoed by Governor.

SBX8 31 (Cedillo)

Requires the California Energy Commission to award \$20 million in grants to the California Community Colleges from American Recovery and Redevelopment Act (Recovery Act) funds to implement an energy-management program.

Last Action: Held in Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee.