

BILL: SB 350

**AUTHOR: SENATOR KEVIN DE LEON
(D- LOS ANGELES)**

SUBJECT: THE GOLDEN STATE STANDARDS

STATUS: ASSEMBLY – PENDING COMMITTEE REFERRAL

ACTION: SUPPORT

RECOMMENDATION

That the Board adopt a support position regarding SB 350.

ISSUE

The Senate Democratic Caucus has introduced a package of legislation relating to climate change in California. There are a number of bills in this package however, two relate directly to Metro's projects and programs: SB 350 (DeLeon) is a key component of that package.

SB 350 would:

- Direct the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to adopt vehicle emissions standards and vehicle fuel standards that would achieve a 50% reduction in petroleum use in motor vehicles by January 1, 2030.
- Make findings that the state should pursue the least environmental and economic cost strategies and that the state should utilize all practical and cost-effective strategies to achieve energy security, diversity of supply sources, and competitiveness of transportation energy markets to reduce petroleum use in the transportation sector by 50% by January 1, 2050.
- Direct the California Energy Commission (CEC), by January 1, 2017, and at least once every three years thereafter, to adopt and update to its programs to double the energy efficiency of existing residential and non-residential buildings by January 1, 2030.
- Direct the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) and CEC to implement the Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) in a manner which would result in generating 50% of total retail electricity sales from renewable energy resources by December 31, 2030.

DISCUSSION

SB 350 is titled the *Clean Energy and Pollution Reduction Act of 2015* and would require various state agencies to take actions that would increase energy efficiency and reduce pollution in the transportation and energy generation sectors. It would also increase energy efficiency in buildings in the state. The bill does this by setting new pollution reduction targets and increasing energy efficiency targets in existing programs.

The leadership in the California Senate is proposing a package of legislation titled California Climate Leadership: Powering the New Economy SB 350 is one of a series of bills being proposed by. The package includes other measures such as SB 32 (Pavley) which would extend and increase the overarching climate pollution reduction targets to 2050, as well as other measures which would address the development of renewable energy and the investment of pension funds in fossil fuels.

According to a report from the CEC, 60% of the state's greenhouse gas emissions come from the transportation and energy generation sectors. Existing state law already establishes targets to reduce emissions from these sectors and establishes programs implemented by various state agencies to accomplish those reductions. SB 350 utilizes those existing programs and sets a higher standard within those programs to reduce pollution from those sectors by January 1, 2030.

Because this bill would further programs that support Metro's goals of reducing greenhouse gases (ghg) in our region and could help to fund Metro's projects and programs, staff recommends that the Board adopt a support position on SB 350.

DETERMINATION OF SAFETY IMPACT

Staff have reviewed the bills for any impacts to safety and found that supporting this legislation would not impact safety at our agency.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Staff have reviewed the bills for their financial impact to the agency and found that the measures could increase funding for our projects and programs.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

Staff considered an oppose or neutral position but this would be inconsistent with Metro's efforts to fund our projects and programs and reduce greenhouse gases in our region.