

1996

Legislative Action 1995/1996 Legislative Session

Assembly Committee on Utilities and Commerce

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Assembly Committee on Utilities and Commerce

Legislative Action
1995/1996 Legislative Session



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Assembly Bill 119 (Baca and Conroy)

DESCRIPTION

This bill would remove the requirement that the commission find that the proposal provides net benefits to ratepayers, and instead would require the commission to find that the proposal provides short-term and long-term economic benefits to ratepayers, and equitably allocates the short-term and long-term forecasted economic benefits of the proposed merger, acquisition, or control, as determined by the commission, between shareholders and ratepayers, where the commission has ratemaking authority. It would require that the ratepayers receive not less than 50% of the benefits.

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown.

SUPPORT

GTE California, Inc.
Public Utilities Commission
San Diego Gas & Electric
Southern California Edison Company

OPPOSITION

American Association of Retired Persons
Toward Utility Rate Normalization

COMMITTEE ACTION

April 4, 1995 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 9-1).

STATUS

Approved by the Governor (10/04/95), Chapter 622, Statutes of 1995.

Assembly Bill 202 (Conroy)

DESCRIPTION

This bill would exempt from the definition of a telephone corporation one-way paging services utilizing facilities that are licensed by the Federal Communications Commission, and would require the Director of the Department of Consumer Affairs to receive complaints from consumers concerning those services.

FISCAL EFFECT

May result in some savings to the PUC by eliminating administrative oversight for paging systems regulated by the FCC.

SUPPORT

Allied Personal Communications Industry Association
California Public Utilities Commission
Mobile Media
MobileComm
AirTouch Paging
Metrocall

OPPOSITION

None reported to the Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

March 27, 1995 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee with recommendation to Consent (Vote 14-0).

STATUS

Approved by the Governor (8/3/95), Chapter 357, Statutes of 1995.

Assembly Bill 296 (Knight)

DESCRIPTION

This bill would enact the Enterprise Zone Act, to provide for the designation of zones by the Trade and Commerce Agency, according to specified criteria, pursuant to which certain entities within each zone may receive regulatory, tax, and other incentives for the economic and employment development and private investment.

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown.

SUPPORT

Trade and Commerce Agency

OPPOSITION

None reported to committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

April 17, 1995 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee and re-referred to Assembly Committee on Revenue and Taxation (Vote 14-0).

STATUS

Approved by Governor (9/26/96), Chapter 953, Statutes of 1996.

Assembly Bill 515 (Alpert)

DESCRIPTION

This bill would require the commission to adopt rules and regulations that substantially revise the manner in which oil pipeline corporations may change and use rates according to designated criteria. Since violations of orders, decisions, rules, or other requirements of the Public Utilities Commission are misdemeanors, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program by creating new crimes.

FISCAL EFFECT

None.

SUPPORT

Atlantic Richfield Company

OPPOSITION

None on file.

COMMITTEE ACTION

April 17, 1995 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee with recommendation to Consent. (Vote: 14-0).

STATUS

Approved by Governor (10/13/95), Chapter 802, Statutes of 1995.

Assembly Bill 575 (Knox)

DESCRIPTION

This bill specifies that public hospitals, state-licensed children's hospitals, psychiatric hospitals, proprietary hospitals, or health facilities for medical purposes located either within and outside of the state that did not provide special education to certain individuals with exceptional needs between the ages of 3 and 5 years, inclusive, pursuant to a waiver for the 1994-95 school year, are ineligible for certification to provide special education to individuals with exceptional needs.

FISCAL EFFECT

None.

SUPPORT

Cedars Sinai Hospital (source)

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

April 17, 1995 - Passed Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 15-1).

STATUS

Approved by the Governor (10/16/95), CHAPTER 976, Statutes of 1995.

SUBJECT MATTER CHANGED. NO LONGER RELATED TO UTILITIES.

Assembly Bill 609 (Morrissey)

DESCRIPTION

This bill would make it unlawful for a passenger stage corporation to continue operating as a carrier once their license has been revoked or suspended.

FISCAL EFFECT

Minor, if any.

SUPPORT

California Public Utilities Commission
California Teamsters

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

March 27, 1995 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee with recommendation to Consent (Vote: 14-0).

STATUS

Approved by the Governor (8/3/95), Chapter 362, Statutes of 1995.

Assembly Bill 622 (Conroy)

DESCRIPTION

This bill provides a procedure for the transfer of master-meter electricity and gas systems from mobilehome park owners to the local serving utility.

FISCAL EFFECT

Minor/absorbable costs.

SUPPORT

Western Mobilehome Parkowners Association
California Mobilehome Parkowners Alliance
Pacific Gas and Electric Company
Southern California Edison

OPPOSITION

None.

COMMITTEE ACTION

April 17, 1995 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee and re-referred to the Assembly Committee on Housing and Community Development (Vote: 11-3).

STATUS

Approved by Governor (9/12/96), Chapter 424, Statutes 1996.

Assembly Bill 828 (Conroy)

DESCRIPTION

This bill permits the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), by rule or order, to partially or completely waive the tariff requirements for telephone corporations for certain services when the provider of the service lacks significant market power in the market for that service or when sufficient consumer protections exist, and to revoke any exemption so granted.

The bill requires the CPUC to establish enumerated consumer protection rules for the exempted services, and would require the commission to report to the Legislature by January 1, 1997, on its consumer protection rules and implementation procedures to allow telephone corporations to be exempted from the tariffing requirements.

FISCAL EFFECT

Minor, if any.

SUPPORT

California Public Utilities Commission (Sponsor)
Pacific Telesis
GTE California, Inc.
AT&T
California Telephone Association

OPPOSITION

Time Warner

COMMITTEE ACTION

April 17, 1995 - Passed by Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee with amendments (Vote: 9-0).

STATUS

Approved by the Governor (10/12/95), CHAPTER 809, Statutes of 1995.

Assembly Bill 855 (Caldera)

DESCRIPTION

This bill would, subject to adoption of a resolution by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors making its provisions applicable to the county, require the county board of supervisors to appoint the Los Angeles County Tourism Selection Committee, which would perform various duties in the formation of the Los Angeles County Tourism Marketing Commission, a nonprofit corporation under the direction of a board of commissioners elected by industry referendum or appointed according to specified criteria. It would set forth the duties of the county commission in the promotion of tourism to and within the County of Los Angeles. It would set forth the procedures for the industry referenda, and for the determination of assessments, penalties, and fines on identified businesses. It would require the Los Angeles County Treasurer/Tax Collector to perform various activities in connection with the levying and collection of the assessments, penalties, and fines, upon recommendation by the county commission, and approval by the board of supervisors. It would require the county commission to annually develop and adopt the Los Angeles County Marketing Plan, and to contract with the Los Angeles Convention and Visitors Bureau to serve as its administrative contractor in promoting, implementing, and administering the plan. This bill would provide that the county or the county treasurer/tax collector shall act in place of the Secretary of Trade and Commerce in respect to the activities described in the bill. This bill would make it a misdemeanor for a person to provide false information concerning an assessment.

FISCAL EFFECT

None.

SUPPORT

California Confederation of the Arts

OPPOSITION

None on file.

COMMITTEE ACTION

May 1, 1995 - Passed the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 11-1)..

STATUS

Approved by the Governor (10/13/96), Chapter 868, Statutes of 1995.

Assembly Bill 877 (Conroy)

DESCRIPTION

This bill would require the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to set maximum rate for household goods carriers using a specified index number methodology. In addition, this bill requires the maximum rate to be updated annually using the established index number methodology.

FISCAL EFFECT

Minor, absorbable costs to the CPUC.

SUPPORT

California Moving and Storage Association.

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

April 3, 1995 - Passed Assembly Utilities and Commerce (Vote: 10-0).

STATUS

Approved by the Governor (9/3/95), Chapter 361, Statutes of 1995.

Assembly Bill 1095 (Martinez)

DESCRIPTION

This bill would provide that the commission may exempt from the requirements for public inspection, a contract negotiated by the gas corporation for service subject to the commission's jurisdiction with rates, terms or conditions differing from the schedules on file with the commission, except under specified conditions. This bill would also provide that a local agency is exempt from any requirement to make available for public inspection a contract negotiated by the local agency for the provision of gas, but may disclose the contract information under specified conditions.

FISCAL EFFECT

None.

SUPPORT

Southern California Gas Company (sponsor)

OPPOSITION

California Municipal Utilities Association
City of Los Angeles
Northern California Power Agency
Southern California Utility Power Pool (SCUPP)
Imperial Irrigation District
Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
City of Alameda Bureau of Electricity

COMMITTEE ACTION

May 8, 1995 - Passed the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 11-0).

STATUS

Approved by the Governor (2/9/96), Chapter 8, Statutes of 1996.

Assembly Bill 1121 (Conroy)

DESCRIPTION

Clarifies federal preemption of most Public Utilities Commission (PUC) regulation of cell phone companies. Makes PUC authority permissive rather than mandatory. Finds that the state is generally preempted from regulating the rates or entry of wireless telecommunications services but that the state does have the authority to regulate the other terms and conditions of service. Provides that any provision of the Public Utilities Act that is in conflict with federal law shall not apply to wireless telecommunications; Provides the California PUC with the authority to exempt wireless communications services from filing tariffs.

FISCAL EFFECT

None

SUPPORT

California Public Utilities Commission
Cellular Carriers of California

OPPOSITION

Toward Utility Rate Normalization

COMMITTEE ACTION

April 17, 1995 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee with amendments (Vote: 9-2).

STATUS

Approved by Governor (9/17 /96), Chapter 574, Statutes of 1996.

Assembly Bill 1130 (Morrissey)

DESCRIPTION

This bill would require the annual report of the Public Utilities Commission to the Legislature regarding the safety division to be submitted on or before November 30 of each year.

This bill would limit the budget for expenditure of railroad corporation fees.

This bill would require this audit to be conducted by the Bureau of State Audits, for the 1996-97 fiscal year and fiscal years thereafter until the 1999-2000 fiscal year, and to be reported on or before January 15 of each year.

FISCAL EFFECT

This bill would cut approximately \$500,000 from the \$3.3 million in railroad corporation fees currently collected by the CPUC pursuant to the Rail Safety Act of 1991, and cap the expenditure of fees for this program at \$2.8 million dollars in subsequent years.

SUPPORT

Union Pacific RR Co.
Southern Pacific Transportation Co.
Atchison, Topeka & the Santa Fe Railway Co.
Burlington Northern RR Co.
California Shoreline RR Assoc.
California RR Industry

OPPOSITION

United Transportation Union
CPUC

COMMITTEE ACTION

April 5, 1995 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 10-0).

STATUS

Approved by the Governor (10/04/95), Chapter 616, Statutes of 1995.

Assembly Bill 1302 (K. Murray)

DESCRIPTION

This bill amends the Morgan-Farr-Quackenbush Educational Technology Act of 1992. The bill requires the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to order that \$17.5 million in Pacific Telesis "spin-off" monies be deposited in the Education Technology Trust Fund, and appropriates that sum for education technology, in benefit of public schools.

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown.

SUPPORT

American Institute of Architects, California Council
Association of California School Administrators
California Community Colleges
California Department of Education
California Library Association
California Media and Library Educators Association
California School Boards Association
California State Association of Counties
California State PTA
California State University, Sacramento
California Teachers Association
Kern County Superintendent of Schools
Los Angeles Unified School District, Pacific Telesis, William S. Hart Union High School
District, Delta Gamma Society International

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

April 26, 1995 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 14-0).

STATUS

Approved by Governor (10/11/95), Chapter 767, Statutes of 1995. Note: this bill is double joined to AB 1519 (Morrow) which was also approved by the Governor (2/9/96), Chapter 9, Statutes of 1996.

Assembly Bill 1451 (Conroy)

DESCRIPTION

This bill would provide that if any provision of the Public Utilities Act or the Highway Carriers' Act, as applied to specified carriers, is invalid, the application of the other valid provisions of those acts shall not be affected. The bill would also require that all moneys paid into the Transportation Rate Fund by highway common carriers, cement carriers, integrated intermodal small package carriers and highway permit carriers, except for moneys paid by household goods carriers, be used by the Public Utilities Commission solely for the purposes permitted by state and federal law, among which are the regulation of the safety and financial responsibility of carriers. These provisions would be repealed on January 1, 1997.

FISCAL EFFECT

No State fiscal impact.

SUPPORT

California Trucking Association
California Public Utilities Commission
California Teamsters Public Affairs Council

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

April 4, 1995 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote 9-0).

STATUS

Approved by the Governor (10/14/95), Chapter 915, Statutes of 1995.

Assembly Bill 1465 (Morrissey)

DESCRIPTION

This bill changes the process by which a telephone corporation may authorize another telephone corporation to change a customer's provider of telephone service (e.g., AT&T authorizing Pacific Bell to switch your long-distance carrier to AT&T from Sprint).

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown.

SUPPORT

AT&T
Communications Workers of America, Local 9000, Local 9421, Local 9573
Pacific Bell
Public Utilities Commission
GTE
Sprint
MCI

OPPOSITION

Senate amendments removed opposition.

COMMITTEE ACTION

April 17, 1995 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee with amendments (Vote: 11-1).

STATUS

Approved by Governor (10/08/95), Chapter 664, Statutes of 1995.

Assembly Bill 1519 (Morrow and Murray)

DESCRIPTION

This bill requires the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to order that \$17.5 million in Pacific Telesis "spin-off" monies be deposited in the Education Technology Trust Fund, created in this measure, and appropriates that sum for education technology, in benefit of public schools.

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown.

SUPPORT

American Institute of Architects, California Council
Association of California School Administrators
Association for the Improvement of Secondary Education
California Community Colleges
California Department of Education
California Library Association
California Media and Library Educators Association
California School Boards Association
California State Association of Counties
California State PTA
CA Assn of Suburban School Districts

California Continuation Education Assn
California State University at Sacramento
California Teachers Association
Chowchilla Union High School District
Delta Gamma Society International
Huntington Beach Union HS District
JAYCOR
Kern County Superintendent of Schools
Los Angeles Unified School District
Pacific Telesis
Salinas Union High School District
San Diego County Office of Education
San Diego Unified School District
School Services of California, Inc.
William S. Hart Union HS District

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

April 26, 1995 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee with amendments (Vote: 14-0).

STATUS

Approved by Governor (2/9/96), Chapter 9, Statutes of 1996.

Assembly Bill 1575 (K. Murray)

DESCRIPTION

This bill requires any city, county, or city and county that imposes any tax on the consumption of telephone services to provide the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) the tax rate, the manner of the tax collection, and the frequency of the collection.

This bill also requires the CPUC to provide that information to any person or entity that requests the information and would authorize the CPUC to charge a fee for that service.

FISCAL EFFECT

Minor, if any.

SUPPORT

California Association of Long Distance Telephone Companies (source)

AirTouch

AT&T

California Public Utilities Commission

MCI

OPPOSITION

League of California Cities

COMMITTEE ACTION

April 17, 1995 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 13-2).

STATUS

Approved by the Governor (8/2/95), Chapter 280, Statutes of 1995.

Assembly Bill 1589 (Brewer)

DESCRIPTION

This bill requires that the amount collected by the Office of Tourism from the Welcome Centers be deposited in the Commerce Market Fund, to cover costs associated with the administration of the provisions governing the Centers upon appropriation by the Legislature. Specifies that the California Tourism Commission is created within the Trade and Commerce Agency. Requires the Tourism Commission to annually update the tourism marketing plan in cooperation with the Office of Tourism.

FISCAL EFFECT

None.

SUPPORT

Trade and Commerce Agency

OPPOSITION

None on file.

COMMITTEE ACTION

April 3, 1995 - Passed the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee with recommendation to Consent (Vote: 12-0).

STATUS

Approved by the Governor (10/9/95), Chapter 750, Statutes of 1995.

Assembly Bill 1667 (Olberg)

DESCRIPTION

This bill would extend the sunset date on the special gas rates for solar electric generation projects (SEGS) until January 1, 2001, and limit that rate specifically to projects that were operating on January 1, 1995.

FISCAL EFFECT

None.

SUPPORT

Kramer Junction Company
California Energy Commission
Daggett Leasing Corporations
Harper Lake Company

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

May 11, 1995 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 11-0).

STATUS

Approved by Governor (10/16/95), Chapter 960, Statutes of 1995.

Assembly Bill 1683 (Conroy)

DESCRIPTION

This bill transfers all regulatory responsibilities of motor carriers of property from the Public Utilities Commission to the Department of the California Highway Patrol and Department of Motor Vehicles.

FISCAL EFFECT

No cost to the State.

SUPPORT

California Trucking Association
California Highway Patrol
Department of Motor Vehicles
California Dump Truck Owners Association
Yellow Freight System
Shaker Express
Price Transfer, Inc.
Gan-Trans, Ltd.
Roadway Express, Inc.
Roadway Package System, Inc.
Viking Freight System, Inc.
Van-G Trucking, Inc.
Several other trucking companies.

OPPOSITION

None reported to committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

June 22, 1995 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 9-0).

STATUS

Approved by Governor (9/29/96), Chapter 1042, Statutes of 1996.

Assembly Bill 1763 (Weggeland)

DESCRIPTION

This bill would provide that the office directors of each office of the California State World Trade Commission hold office at the pleasure of the Secretary of Trade and Commerce and shall receive a salary as fixed by the Secretary of Trade and Commerce.

This bill would also authorize the Governor to appoint persons, as recommended by the Secretary of Trade and Commerce, to assist the director of any overseas trade office in the operation of that overseas trade office. This bill would provide that these persons are deemed state officers, exempt from civil service. This bill would require the status, rights, and conditions of employment of individuals so appointed to conform to the laws of the jurisdiction in which the trade office is located.

This bill would authorize the director of an overseas trade office to enter into contracts for the performance of services, the procurement of materials and goods, and the lease of office space as may be necessary for the operation of the foreign office. This bill would authorize the director of an overseas trade office, upon the approval of the secretary, (1) to receive up to $\frac{1}{4}$ the amount annually budgeted and approved for the operation and maintenance of that trade office every 3 months for deposit and use, as specified and (2) to establish and maintain a checking account for depositing and withdrawing funds appropriated for the use of the trade office in a bank, as specified.

This bill would require all records to be maintained at the Trade and Commerce Agency and that the Trade and Commerce Agency make these records available to the Department of Finance for audit. This bill would authorize the secretary to accept private sector moneys in an amount not in excess of \$10,000 per donation, and not in excess of a total of \$10,000 per quarter per donor, made to the state to promote international trade and investment, subject to the Political Reform Act of 1974, and would require that the private sector moneys be deposited into the Economic Development and Trade Promotion Account established by the bill in the Special Deposit Fund. The bill would authorize the secretary to expend moneys in the account, without regard to fiscal years, as prescribed. This bill would authorize the secretary to use the private sector moneys for specified expenses, and would provide that records of donations received and expenditures made pursuant to these provisions shall be subject to public disclosure. This bill would require a trade office using the private sector moneys to memorialize the payment in a written record, as specified.

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown minor savings to the Trade and Commerce Agency for the exemption from civil service requirements.

SUPPORT

Trade and Commerce Agency

OPPOSITION

None on file.

COMMITTEE ACTION

April 17, 1995 - Passed the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 16-0).

STATUS

Approved by the Governor (10/12/95), Chapter 824, Statutes of 1995.

Assembly Bill 1770 (Brewer)

DESCRIPTION

This bill would, with respect to municipally owned utilities and municipal utility districts, prohibit the seeking of any recovery of charges or penalties for the furnishing of services from any subsequent tenant or the property owner due to nonpayment of charges by a previous tenant. For this purpose, a subsequent tenant would not include an adult who lived at the residence when the charges or penalties accrued. Prohibits these public utilities from demanding or receiving security in an amount that exceeds specified amounts. Authorizes the public utility, in the event of tenant nonpayment of all or a portion of the bill, to apply the deposit to the final bill issued when service is terminated.

This bill will, with respect to municipally owned utilities and municipal utility districts, authorize the public utility to collect a deposit from a tenant service applicant prior to establishing an account for the tenant. The bill would prohibit these public utilities from demanding or receiving security in an amount that exceeds specified amounts. Authorizes these public utilities, in the event of tenant nonpayment of all or a portion of the bill, to apply the deposit to the final bill issued when service is terminated. Prohibits the municipal corporation or district from requiring that service to subsequent tenants be furnished on the account of the landlord or property owner unless the property owner consents through a written agreement.

Existing law provides that accounts of a municipal utility district that are delinquent become a lien on the property to which services were rendered, with the force, effect, and priority of a judgment lien, when a certificate to this effect is filed for recordation with the county recorder. Exempts residential property from provision. This bill will not apply to master-metered apartment buildings.

FISCAL EFFECT

Minor absorbable costs.

SUPPORT

California Apartment Association

OPPOSITION

California Municipal Utility Association
Association of California Water Agencies
League of California Cities

COMMITTEE ACTION

Not relevant.

STATUS

Approved by the Governor (4/8/96), State Chapter 24, Statutes of 1996.

Assembly Bill 1890 (Brulte)

DESCRIPTION

This bill restructures the electrical services industry in California in order to transition to competitive markets by December 31, 2001, to lower the cost of electricity, to retain and attract jobs, and to reduce power outages.

Maintains funding for benefits to many specified classes of providers and consumers of electricity. Reallocates existing funds within existing California Public Utilities Commission, PUC, ordered utility expenditures and PUC approved rates. Finances rate reductions through \$5 to \$10 billion in Rate Reduction Bonds. Does not expose taxpayers to "the full faith and credit" of the state because the bonds sold will be revenue, as opposed to general obligation bonds.

Freezes rates from June 10, 1996 through December 31, 1996, reduces rates by 10 percent for residential and small commercial ratepayers by January 1, 1998, requires the PUC to cut rates an additional 10 percent by June 30, 2002, cumulating in \$3.2 billion in rate relief for residential and small commercial customers. Provides a "firewall" insulating residential customers from rate shifts from other classes of customers.

Specifies retraining, retirement and other benefits for displaced utility workers and protects the investments of the shareholders of investor-owned utilities and the ratepayers of municipal owned utilities. Phases out and/or buys down existing subsidies for and seeks to move above market energy sources, such as renewables and Qualifying Facilities, Qfs, toward a competitive market. Provides specified benefits and exemptions for particular irrigation districts, Bay Area Rapid Transit, BART, specified UC projects, the state water project, producers of above market energy from wind, solar, fuel cells, bio-mass, cogeneration and other sources, public benefit programs such as research and development, energy efficiency programs, and low income energy assistance.

Specifies systems reliability standards to avoid power failures. Provides direct customer access to electricity through competitive generators and a competitive Power Exchange. Under a politically appointed Oversight Board, an Independent Systems Operator, ISO, maintains the reliability and unbiased scheduling of electricity transmission over a statewide transmission grid composed of the transmission assets of investor-owned utilities and municipal utilities. Out of existing PUC ordered utility expenditures and approved rates, this bill designates certain nonbypassable Competitive Transition Charges, CTCs, on all customer bills. Segregated CTC funds are to be used by utilities to recover and/or reduce potential losses of having to sell, divest, or buy down certain uneconomic costs, "stranded" assets, such as above market contracts for power plants, fuel, or alternative sources of energy.

Specifically, the conference committee amendments detail the transition from the current regulated monopolies to a competitive market by specifying recovery of transition costs, organization of the new market, funding of current public purpose programs and creating new consumer protections.

FISCAL EFFECT

None

SUPPORT

Calaveras Cement Company, California Cogeneration Council, California Industrial Users California Independent Petroleum Association, California Farm Bureau Federation, California Municipal Utilities Association, Ceert Coalition, Coalition Of California Utility Employees, Fresno Unified School District, Independent Energy Producers, Independent Oil Producers' Agency, California Public Utilities Commission, California Municipal Utilities Association, California Farm Bureau Federation, California Municipal Utilities Association Ceert Coalition, Coalition Of California Utility Employees, Fresno Unified School District Independent Energy Producers, Kaiser Cement, Merced Irrigation District, Modesto Irrigation District, Natural Resources Defense Council, Northern California Power Agency (A Joint Power Comprised of the Following Entities: Cities of Alameda, Biggs, Gridley, Healdsburg, Lodi, Lompoc, Palo Alto, Redding, Roseville, Santa Clara, and Ukiah), Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative, Port Of Oakland, Truckee-Donner Public Utility District, Turlock Irrigation District Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers International, Union Pacific Gas And Electric Company Regional Energy Management Coalition, Sacramento Municipal Utility District, Western States Petroleum Association, John L. Wimberly (Chula Vista), University Of California.

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

August 28, 1996 - Passed Joint Conference Committee on Electrical Restructuring (Vote: 6-0).
July 13, 1995 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee with recommendation to Consent (Vote: 15-0).

STATUS

Approved by Governor (9/24/96). Chapter 854, Statutes of 1996

Assembly Bill 2064 (Bordonaro)

DESCRIPTION

Existing law authorizes the expenditure of specified funds in the Nuclear Planning Assessment Special Account, upon appropriation by the Legislature, for purposes of the Radiation Protection Act of 1993, as specified. Under existing law the amounts available for reimbursement of state and local costs are cumulative biennially, as specified. This bill would specify the availability of any unexpended funds for specified fiscal years for the San Onofre and Diablo Canyon sites.

FISCAL EFFECT

Minor, if any.

SUPPORT

County of San Luis Obispo

OPPOSITION

None on file.

COMMITTEE ACTION

April 8, 1996 - Passed the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee with a recommendation to Consent (Vote: 12-0)

STATUS

Approved by the Governor (9/15/96), Chapter 577, Statutes of 1996.

Assembly Bill 2430 (Hauser)

DESCRIPTION

This bill provides that the California Public Utilities Commission's propane safety program shall not be implemented unless sufficient federal funding has been annually appropriated to the CPUC to ensure that only those charges and that no additional charges be passed on to California consumers.

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown revenue increase, resulting from program expansion, which would be deposited into the Propane Safety Inspection and Enforcement Program Trust Fund.

SUPPORT

CPUC
Western Propane Gas Association

OPPOSITION

None reported to committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

April 9, 1996 - Passed by the Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 11-0).

STATUS

Approved by the Governor (9/19/96), Chapter 651, Statutes of 1996.

Assembly Bill 2501 (Kuykendall)

DESCRIPTION

This bill would define an "exempt wholesale generator" for purposes of state law, as it is defined in specified federal law. The bill would provide that the ownership or operation of an exempt wholesale generator, as specified, does not make a person or corporation a public utility, or subject to the general jurisdiction of the commission, solely due to the ownership or operation of that facility.

FISCAL EFFECT

None.

SUPPORT

PUC
Independent Energy Producers
Pacific Gas and Electric Company

OPPOSITION

None reported to committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

April 15, 1996 - Passed the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee with recommendation:
To Consent (Vote: 10-0).

STATUS

Approved by the Governor (9/23/96), Chapter 853, Statutes of 1996.

Assembly Bill 2589 (Battin)

DESCRIPTION

Existing law requires the Public Utilities Commission to designate a baseline quantity of electricity and gas, as defined, necessary for a significant portion of the reasonable energy needs of the average residential customer.

Existing law requires that the commission retain an appropriate inverted rate structure in establishing residential rates, and requires that if the commission increases baseline rates, revenues resulting from those increases be used exclusively to reduce nonbaseline residential rates.

This bill would provide for a test of noninverted rate design or other rate structure changes on an experimental basis in Climatic Zone 15.

FISCAL EFFECT

None.

SUPPORT

Edison International

OPPOSITION

None on file.

COMMITTEE ACTION

April 22, 1996 - Passed the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee with recommendation to Consent (Vote: 13-0).

STATUS

Approved by the Governor (9/23/96), Chapter 848, Statutes of 1996.

Assembly Bill 2713 (Conroy)

DESCRIPTION

This bill expands the California Public Utility Commission's (CPUC) investigative and enforcement powers allowing them to receive state summary criminal history information and disconnect telephone service of illegal household goods carriers.

FISCAL EFFECT

Minor/absorbable cost to the CPUC.

SUPPORT

CPUC
California Moving and Storage Association

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

April 22, 1996 - Passed by the Utilities and Commerce Committee with recommendation to Consent (Vote: 13-0).

STATUS

Approved by the Governor (9/30/96), Chapter 1065, Statutes of 1996.

Assembly Bill 3152 (Martinez)

DESCRIPTION

Extends the sunset on surcharge for telephone services for the deaf until 2001, places devices for hearing impaired in selected pay phones, gives contractual and site preferences to organizations serving the deaf, reimburses payphone owners, funds reimbursements with an incremental increase in an existing surcharge, and caps (not to exceed) surcharge at two one hundreds of one percent on all telephone bills.

FISCAL EFFECT

Public Utilities Commission staff time, \$27,200 in 1996-97, \$13,600 thereafter. Increased annual surcharge revenues of about \$3 million derived from a small increase to every phone bill. Adds and caps .02 of one percent (.0002) per line surcharge to the current 0.36 percent surcharge on all phone bills to pay for devices.

SUPPORT

California Center for Law and the Deaf
California Coalition of Agencies Serving the Deaf

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

April 25, 1996 - Passed by the Utilities and Commerce with amendments (Vote: 9-1).

STATUS

Approved by Governor (9/23/96), Chapter 779, Statutes of 1996.

Assembly Bill 3153 (Aguiar)

DESCRIPTION

Consultant's note: This bill was gutted and amended with the language from AB 3264 (Aguiar) which extended the sunset date for interruptible rates. AB 3153 was used as a conference bill by the Joint Conference Committee on Electrical Restructuring and PUC Reform. The conferees unanimously supported the extension of the sunset date for interruptible rates throughout the transition period required by AB 1890, the electrical restructuring conference report.

This bill extends the sunset date for the interruptible rates programs offered by the utilities to heavy industrial users in response to the legislature's mandate to make industrial electricity rates more competitive with other states. Specifically, the conference committee amendments:

- 1) Extends the existing January 1, 1999, sunset for the interruptible rate program for heavy industrial users to at least March 31, 2002.
- 2) Requires that the California Public Utilities Commission, PUC, continue its efforts to reduce rates charged to heavy industrial users.
- 3) Requires that the interruptible rates do not exceed rates in effect as of June 10, 1996, until March 31, 2002.
- 4) Eliminates the utility reporting requirement.

FISCAL EFFECT

None.

SUPPORT

Coalition of Utility of Employees

OPPOSITION

None on file.

COMMITTEE ACTION

April 22, 1996 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 12-0).

STATUS

Approved by the Governor (9/21/96), Chapter 780, Statutes of 1996.

Assembly Bill 3155 (Martinez)

DESCRIPTION

Different author, but identical text as passed (59-7) this house as SB 2143 (Hurtt) August 8, 1996 version. Provides that public utilities and other service suppliers shall not be liable for collecting, validating, or refunding taxes imposed by another public entity. A utility is not liable (is held harmless) to any customer for collecting taxes on behalf of a tax imposing on local government and it is not responsible for investigating the validity of a tax or assisting in the refunding of an improperly imposed tax.

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown, probably minor, costs to local governments to provide notices and information.

SUPPORT (As recorded for SB 2143)

Cal-Tax (sponsor)

Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA)

AT&T

Airtouch Communications

California Association of Long Distance Telephone Companies (CALTEL)

California State Association of Counties

California Water Association

Cellular Carriers Association of California

GTE California Inc

L. A. Cellular

MCI

Pacific Telesis Group

San Diego Gas & Electric Company

Southern California Edison Company

Southern California Gas Company

Sprint Communications

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Not relevant.

(on SB 2143), Assembly Utilities and Commerce (Vote: 13-0)

STATUS

Approved by Governor (9/26/96), Chapter 939, Statutes of 1996.

DESCRIPTION

Permits the Department of General Services, DGS, to limit its reimbursements to local agencies for emergency 911 equipment to rates negotiated and pre-approved by the DGS. The Senate amendments express legislative intent that reimbursement rates not exceed amounts negotiated and restate that rates not exceed those preapproved by the DGS.

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown savings to Emergency Telephone Number, ETN, account.

SUPPORT

Department of General Services (sponsor)

OPPOSITION

None received.

COMMITTEE ACTION

April 22, 1996 - Passed by the Utilities and Commerce Committee with recommendation to Consent (Vote: 13-0).

STATUS

Approved by Governor (9/21/96), Chapter 746, Statutes of 1996.

Assembly Concurrent Resolution 24 (Vasconcellos)

DESCRIPTION

ACR 25 is based upon a study done by the Japanese Chamber of Commerce of Northern California and the Japan Business Association of Southern California entitled, "Charting California's Economic Recovery." The study recommended that an Honorary Goodwill Ambassador to Japan would facilitate relations between the respective business communities. The Ambassador would be charged with working to secure commitments to invest or increase operations in the state, promote joint ventures between California and Japanese corporations, extend invitations to Japanese officials to promote goodwill and, to advise the state on the status of California-Japan relations.

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown.

SUPPORT

Japanese Business Association of Southern California
Japanese Chamber of Commerce of Northern California
Consulate General of Japan

OPPOSITION

None on file.

COMMITTEE ACTION

May 1, 1995 - Adopted by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee with recommendation to Consent (Vote 14-0).

STATUS

Chaptered by the Secretary of State (7/24/95), Chapter 60, Statutes of 1995.

Assembly Joint Resolution 28 (Knox)

DESCRIPTION

This measure memorializes the Congress of the United States to enact whatever laws are necessary to allow each state to share in the proceeds of the current Federal Communications Commission auction of radio spectrum for purposes of funding their schools' and public libraries' telecommunications and information infrastructure.

FISCAL EFFECT

None.

SUPPORT

California Public Utilities Commissioner Gregory Conlon
California Public Utilities Commissioner Jesse Knight

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

May 15, 1995 - Passed by the Utilities and Commerce Committee with amendments and recommendation to Consent (Vote: 11-0).

STATUS

Approved by Governor (6/26/95), Resolution Chapter 42, Statutes of 1995.

Assembly Concurrent Resolution 84 (Napolitano)

DESCRIPTION

Recommends a State Trade Office in either Southeast Asia or South Korea as does AB 3258 (Napolitano) which was held in Assembly Appropriations.

FISCAL EFFECT

No direct effect. Annual GF costs increase \$200, 000 per each new trade office.

SUPPORT

Chinese American Entrepreneurs Association
Grace Chu, Attorney
Hong Kong Association of Southern California
Doris Nieh Enterprises
Southern California Edison
Consortium For Distance Learning

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

May 6, 1996 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 10-1).

STATUS

Chaptered by the Secretary of State (8/21/96), Chapter 53, Statutes of 1996.



Senate Bill 184 (Kopp)

DESCRIPTION

This bill requires any electric utility which owns and operates transmission and distribution facilities that deliver electricity to the San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District (BART), upon request by BART, to deliver preference power purchased from a federal power marketing agency. It also requires the electric utility to bill BART as though all the electricity purchased were metered by a single meter at one location. Furthermore, it provides that any lease entered into between BART and an electrical utility, for special facilities to receive power at transmission level voltages, cannot be terminated without BART's consent.

FISCAL EFFECT

Minor and absorbable costs to the California Public Utilities Commission.

SUPPORT

San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

July 14, 1995 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 16-0).

STATUS

Approved by the Governor (10/08/95), Chapter 681, Statutes of 1995.

Senate Bill 207 (Polanco)

DESCRIPTION

Maintains universal telephone service in the newly emerging local competitive telephone market. Required the California Public Utilities Commission, PUC, to redesign existing universal telephone service programs (transfer payments) to ensure fair and equitable local rate structures for high cost areas. Gives the PUC flexibility as to payment calculations and methods. Amendments in conference: Allow the Legislature, at its discretion, to assess whether any issues warrant modifications during the 1997-1998 regular session. Require the PUC to report to the Governor, the Joint Legislative Budget Committee and the Assembly and Senate fiscal committees not later than December 15, 1996, regarding the PUCs universal telephone service proceeding and recommended program. Require the PUC to report to the Governor, the Joint Legislative Budget Committee and the Assembly and Senate fiscal committees of the Legislature, not later than December 1, 1999, on the status of the universal telephone service fund and program. The report will consider the effectiveness of the universal service funding mechanism in establishing equitable and nondiscriminatory contributions by all telecommunications providers and the success of the program in ensuring universal access in rural and high cost areas. The commission shall investigate subsidy reduction, or elimination in service areas with competition, and report on the feasibility of service area auctions for high cost areas.

FISCAL EFFECT

None.

SUPPORT

California Public Utilities Commission (Sponsor)
California Chamber of Commerce
California Business Roundtable
California Small Business Association
California Manufacturers Association
California Council for Environmental And Economic Balance
Black Business Association
Latin Business Association
California Business Alliance
Hollywood Chamber of Commerce
Pasadena Chamber of Commerce
Sacramento Metro Chamber of Commerce
Culver City Chamber of Commerce
Inglewood/Airport Area Chamber of Commerce
Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Solano/Napa County
Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Sonoma County
Vallejo Chamber of Commerce
Greater Redding Chamber of Commerce
Loomis Chamber of Commerce

Loomis Chamber of Commerce
North Lake Tahoe Chamber of Commerce
Eureka Chamber of Commerce
Chico Economic Planning Corporation
Mission Housing Development Corporation
Mission Economic Development Association
AARP
Congress of California Seniors
TURN
UCAN
ACE
Californians Against Regulatory Excess
Californians for Advanced and Affordable Telecommunications
Apartment Association of San Fernando Valley/Ventura County
Asian Law Caucus
Center for Southeast Asian Refugee Resettlement (CSEEAR)
California Association of Health Services at Home
California Chapter of National Emergency Number Association
American Association of Business Persons with a Disability
Radio Bilingue
Centro Latino de San Francisco, Inc.
El Central De Amistad
El Central De Amistad
El Centro Del Pueblo
AIDS Health Project
Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund
California Association of Medical Product Suppliers
Fiesta Educativa, Inc.
Korean Health Education Information and Referral Center
American G.I. Forum
FAME Assistance Corporation
HACR - Hispanic Association on Corporate Responsibility
HACR - California Coalition
Spanish Speaking Unity Council
Federation of Employed Latin American Descendants, Inc.
California League of United Latin American Citizens
GTE
Cellular Carriers Association of California
California Telephone Association
AT&T
California Cable Television Association
Pacific Telesis Group
MCI
Communications Workers of America
National Farmers Union
A. Philip Randolph Institute, AFL-CIO

Mission Hiring Hall, Inc.
NAACP - Fresno Chapter
Santa Rosa / Sonoma County NAACP
Beverly Hills / Hollywood NAACP
Black Coalition on Education
Colusa, Glenn, Trinity Community Action Board of Directors
San Jose Conservation Corporation
Hotline of San Luis Obispo County
Hearing Society for the Bay Area, Inc.
Lao Family Community Youth Culture Center
California / Nevada Community Action Association
City of Auburn
City of Oroville
County of Glenn

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Feb. 14, 1996 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee with a recommendaton to Consent (Vote: 8-0).

STATUS

Approved by the Governor (9/23/96). Chapter 750, Statutes of 1996.

Senate Bill 248 (Hayden)

DESCRIPTION

This bill includes within those residential customers to which additional limited allowance for gas and electricity applies to persons who are being treated for a life-threatening illness and have a compromised immune system, if a physician or surgeon or osteopath certifies to the utility that the additional heating and cooling is medically necessary.

FISCAL EFFECT

Minor absorbable costs to the California Public Utilities Commission.

SUPPORT

San Diego Gas & Electric
Pacific Gas & Electric
Toward Utility Rate Normalization
California Medical Association
California Nurses Association
American Cancer Society
American Association of Retired Persons
AIDS Healthcare Foundation
AIDS Legal Referral Panel
AIDS Project Los Angeles
Being Alive San Diego
The AIDS Service Center

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

June 12, 1995 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 14-0).

STATUS

Approved by the Governor (7/6/95), Chapter 75, Statutes of 1995.

Senate Bill 256 (Johnston)

DESCRIPTION

This bill would enact the California Tourism Marketing Act that would, among other things, provide procedures for the establishment of an industry-approved assessment and the creation of a nonprofit corporation named the California Tourism Marketing Commission utilizing a referenda process. This bill would provide that the existing California Tourism Commission shall be inoperative while the California Tourism Marketing Commission established by this act is operative, but shall resume operation upon the termination of the California Tourism Marketing Commission. This bill would provide that if the California Tourism Commission is inoperative, the Secretary of Trade and Commerce shall detail the marketing plan. This bill would provide that certain functions performed by the Office of Tourism are also to be performed by the California Tourism Marketing Commission. This bill would require the Governor to appoint a 25-member Tourism Selection Committee, as specified, to issue a report listing specified data related to the tourism industry.

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown. Possible minor costs to Trade and Commerce Agency

SUPPORT

California Travel Industry Association	California Chamber of Commerce
California Hotel and Motel Association	California Lodging Industry Association
California Restaurant Association	California Ski Industry Association
First Gray Line Corporation	Anheuser-Busch Companies, Inc.
Disneyland	Heavenly Ski Resort
Marriott International, Inc.	Universal Studios
The California Parks Company	Winchester Mystery House
Vallejo Convention and Visitors Bureau	
California Association for Local Economic Development	
Newport Beach Conference & Visitors Bureau	

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

July 13, 1995 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 14-0).

STATUS

Approved by the Governor (10/13/95). Chapter 871, Statutes of 1995.

Senate Bill 415 (Thompson)

DESCRIPTION

This bill prohibits a highway carrier, a freight forwarder, or any representative or assignee of a carrier or freight forwarder from collecting or attempting to collect any additional charge in excess of the originally billed negotiated rate, except when mistakes are acknowledged by both parties or that are the result of intentional misrepresentation by the shipper.

FISCAL EFFECT

Possible cost savings to the Utilities Reimbursement Account related to a fewer number of undercharge claims filed with the Public Utilities Commission.

SUPPORT

California Public Utilities Commission
Natural Oils International, Inc
Morgan & Simpson, Inc.
Pressley Peterbilt
Long & Levit
Engs Motor Truck Co.
Astro Business Cards Inc.
Transportation Claims and Prevention Council, Inc.
Charles Leonard, Inc.
Brady Marketing Company
Findley Adhesives Inc.
Morgan & Simpson, Inc.
Metal Industries, Inc.
Agricultural Council of California

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

May 7, 1996 - Passed by the Utilities and Commerce Committee with recommendation to consent (Vote 12-0).

STATUS

Approved by Governor (6/21/96), Chapter 72, Statutes of 1996

Senate Bill 448 (Haynes)

DESCRIPTION

This bill allows the California Public Utilities Commission to authorize utilities to provide discounted rates to businesses locating on federal bases that have closed or have been realigned since January 1, 1992.

FISCAL EFFECT

None.

SUPPORT

Southern California Edison
Apple Valley Chamber of Commerce
City of Moreno Valley
City of Victorville
Greater Riverside Chamber of Commerce
Hesperia Chamber of Commerce
Inland Empire Economic Partnership
March Air Force Base Joint Powers Authority
Monday Morning Group
Moreno Valley Chamber of Commerce
Perris Valley Chamber of Commerce

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

July 14, 1995 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee with recommendation to Consent (Vote: 16-0).

STATUS

Approved by the Governor (10/16/95), Chapter 969, Statutes of 1995.

Senate Bill 496 (Thompson)

DESCRIPTION

This bill repeals an existing provision of law that requires the Board of Pilot Commissioners to temporarily reduce the additional pilotage charge in 1995 in the event that maintenance and repair costs of two pilot boats is less than \$200,000.

FISCAL EFFECT

None.

SUPPORT

San Francisco Bar Pilots

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

July 11, 1995 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee with recommendation to Consent (Vote: 16-0).

STATUS

Approved by the Governor (10/09/95), Chapter 711, Statutes of 1995.

Senate Bill 585 (Craven)

DESCRIPTION

This bill provides that a mobilehome park that only provides water to its tenants from its own supplies and facilities, is not a water corporation, as defined in existing law. The bill, however, makes that mobilehome park subject to the jurisdiction of the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) for determination of specified tenant complaints about the water rates and service provided. The bill authorizes the CPUC to afford rate relief and to order improvements in water supply, facilities, and services, as it finds just and reasonable. The bill requires the public adviser of the CPUC, as specified, and necessary staff of the CPUC to assist the complainant.

FISCAL EFFECT

None.

SUPPORT

Golden State Mobilehome Owners League, Inc.

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

July 13, 1995 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee with amendments (Vote: 16-0).

STATUS

Approved by the Governor (10/08/95), Chapter 689, Statutes of 1995.

Senate Bill 595 (Thompson)

DESCRIPTION

This bill would provide for an alternative procedure when claims are made to collect charges in excess of those originally billed by a highway carrier or freight forwarder under specified conditions.

FISCAL EFFECT

None.

SUPPORT

California Manufactures Association
CA Public Utilities Commission
Small Business of America, Inc.
AdvoCal (clients: Wynnos International. Wynn Oil Company,
and Robert Skeels & Company)
Applied Friction Techniques, Inc.
A.O. Smith Corporation
AccuForms, Inc.
ANCRA International Corporation
Aquaria, Inc.
ATCO Rubber Products, Inc.
Atlas Mill Supply
Atlaslift West, Inc.
Bearings, Inc.
Brady Marketing Company
Several other companies

OPPOSITION

None reported to committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

July 14, 1995 - Passed by the Utilities and Commerce Committee with recommendation to Consent (Vote: 16-0).

STATUS

Approved by the Governor (10/4/95). Chapter 560, Statutes of 1995.

Senate Bill 621 (Peace)

DESCRIPTION

This bill expresses the intent of the Legislature that municipalities shall have the right to exercise reasonable control, pursuant to specified criteria, as to the time, place, and manner in which roads, highways, and waterways are accessed.

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown.

SUPPORT

City of San Diego

OPPOSITION

City of Poway

COMMITTEE ACTION

July 13, 1995 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 13-0).

STATUS

Approved by the Governor (10/16/95), Chapter 968, Statutes of 1995.

Senate Bill 623 (Peace)

DESCRIPTION

Makes theft of cable signals a felony, but defines theft as attachment of equipment without the authorization of a cable provider. Also declares that a public interest exists in a consumer right to purchase converter boxes from those not affiliated with cable providers (as is the case with telephone equipment).

FISCAL EFFECT

New crimes disclaimer.

SUPPORT

None reported to Committee.

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

August 21, 1996 - Withdrawn from the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee.
Double referred to PUBLIC SAFETY and to UTILITIES and COMMERCE, heard in PUBLIC SAFETY, BUT never heard in U. & C..

STATUS

Approved by the Governor (9/30/96), Chapter 1131, Statutes of 1996.

Senate Bill 656 (Alquist)

DESCRIPTION

This bill requires every electric utility in the state that offers residential service, whether or not the entity is subject to the jurisdiction of the CPUC, to develop a standard tariff providing for net energy metering to eligible customer-generators. This bill will only apply to those systems that produce up to 10 kW and would be restricted to 0.1% of a utilities peak demand.

FISCAL EFFECT

Minor/absorbable costs to the CPUC.

SUPPORT

California Solar Energy Industries Assn., (Sponsor)
California Energy Commission, Sacramento
ASE, Solar Energy Society, La Crescenta
Advanced Photovoltaic Systems, Inc., San Bruno
APT - Ananda Power Technologies, Inc., Nevada City
Becker Electric/Solar Quest, North San Juan
CEERT - Center for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Technologies, Sacramento
Earth Care, Ukiah
Electron Connection, Hornbrook
Independent Energy, Inc. - Goldline, San Diego
IPP - Independent Power Providers, North Fork
Gen-Sun Electric Solar systems, Lucerne Valley
Glidden Construction Company, Santa Barbara
Goldline Electronic Controls, San Diego
Heliotrope General, Spring Valley
Home Power Magazine
Land and Sea Solar, Santa Cruz

OPPOSITION

None reported to committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

June 12, 1996 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 9-2).

STATUS

Approved by the Governor (8/3/96), Chapter 369, Statutes of 1995.

Senate Bill 664 (Russell)

DESCRIPTION

This bill extends indefinitely the authority of the California Public Utilities Commission to decline to offer billing and collection service to "harmful matter" providers, and makes related changes.

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown.

SUPPORT

American Association of Retired Persons
California Public Utilities Commission
Pacific Bell

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

June 12, 1995 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee with a recommendation to Consent (Vote: 14-0).

STATUS

Approved by the Governor (7/22/95), Chapter 170, Statutes of 1995.

Senate Bill 665 (Peace)

DESCRIPTION

This bill permits the CPUC to waive the current requirement that telephone corporations obtain a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity from the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), and instead requires the telephone corporation to register with the CPUC. Telephone corporations are defined as all corporations which own or control a telephone line or related equipment for compensation.

FISCAL EFFECT

The Department of Finance (DOF) estimates that the provisions of this bill will require one additional position at a cost of \$75,000 to adopt the rules required in this bill. DOF indicates that this cost was anticipated in the 1995-96 Governor's Budget and is already funded from the Utilities Reimbursement Account.

DOF also estimates future minor cost savings due to the elimination of the need for an administrative law judge to prepare a case to the commissioners on a telephone company's application to enter the market.

SUPPORT

California Public Utilities Commission (Sponsor)
California Association of Long Distance Telephone Companies

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

June 12, 1995 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee with a recommendation to Consent (Vote: 16-0).

STATUS

Approved by the Governor (7/5/95) - Chapter 74, Statutes of 1995.

Senate Bill 678 (Polanco)

DESCRIPTION

Requests a study to ensure that all end users of natural gas share in the funding of state-mandated low-income customer programs.

FISCAL EFFECT

Minor costs.

SUPPORT

Southern California Gas Company

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

August 28, 1995 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 14-0).

STATUS

Approved by the Governor (7/25/96), Chapter 285, Statutes of 1996.

Senate Bill 960 (Leonard)

DESCRIPTION

Reforms the California Public Utilities Commission's, PUC, by enhancing Commissioner involvement in decisionmaking, and improving the quality and timeliness of commission decisions.

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown.

SUPPORT

Southern California Gas Company
Pacific Gas and Electric
GTE
AT&T
Southern California Edison
San Diego Gas and Electric
Several other organizations and companies

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

August 28, 1996 - Passed the Joint Conference Committee on the reform of the California Public Utilities Commission (Vote: 6-0).

May 7, 1996 - Passed by the Utilities and Commerce Committee with recommendation to Consent (Vote: 12-0)

STATUS

Approved by the Governor (9/23/96). Chapter 856, Statutes of 1996.

Senate Bill 1003 (Killea)

DESCRIPTION

This bill exempts the California Export Finance Board (CEFB), when meeting or tele-conferencing to review a loan guarantee, from the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act. It also increases the membership of the CEFB from nine to eleven members, with the addition of two appointees of the California State World Trade Commission.

FISCAL EFFECT

None.

SUPPORT

P.I.B. Realty Advisors

OPPOSITION

None reported to committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

July 14, 1995 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee with recommendation to Consent (Vote: 16-0).

STATUS

Approved by the Governor (10/12/95), Chapter 835, Statutes of 1995.

Senate Bill 1025(Peace)

DESCRIPTION

This bill requires a water corporation, when it sells any real property that was at any time, but is no longer, necessary or useful in the performance of the water corporation's duties to the public, to invest any net proceeds, as defined, and the interest thereon, from the sale in water system infrastructure, plant, facilities, and properties that are necessary or useful in the performance of its duties to the public.

FISCAL EFFECT

Minor, absorbable costs.

SUPPORT

Fontana Water Company
San Gabriel Valley Water Company
Southern California Water Company

OPPOSITION

California Public Utilities Commission
Department of Finance

COMMITTEE ACTION

June 12, 1995 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 12-0).

STATUS

Approved by the Governor (8/10/95) - Chapter 431, Statutes of 1995.

Senate Bill 1035 (Peace)

DESCRIPTION

Prohibits a telephone company from charging for unlisted telephone service, until local telcos are competitive. Specifies that implementation of "free" unlisted service shall not reduce the revenues of a telephone corporation, that PUC actions shall be competitively neutral, and non-published charges will not be eliminated prior to the effective date of offsetting rates. Prohibits telemarketers from withholding the display of their business telephone number, "Caller ID".

FISCAL EFFECT

Local new crimes disclaimer.

SUPPORT

UCAN
Pacific Bell

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

August 8, 1996 - Passed by the Utilities and Commerce Committee with recommendatoin to Consent (Vote: 10-0).

STATUS

Approved by Governor (9/23/96), Chapter 675, Statutes of 1996.

Senate Bill 1048 (Campbell)

DESCRIPTION

This bill requires an electrical, gas, water corporation with 10,000 or more service connections, or telephone corporation to make alternative arrangements for persons who are unable to appear at the corporation's place of business when a personal appearance is required by the corporation. The bill also imposes the same requirements on municipally owned utilities, municipal utility districts, and public utility districts.

FISCAL EFFECT

None.

SUPPORT

American Association of Retired Persons
California Alliance for Consumer Protection

OPPOSITION

California Water Association

COMMITTEE ACTION

July 13, 1995 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 16-0).

STATUS

Approved by the Governor (8/04/95) - Chapter 614, Statutes of 1995.

Senate Bill 1090 (Russell)

DESCRIPTION

This bill states the intent of the Legislature that switch-based cellular resale continue in order to promote competition in the provision of cellular service in California.

FISCAL EFFECT

None.

SUPPORT

California Resellers Association (Sponsor)
California Public Utilities Commission
The Cellular Network
Corporate Cellular
Personal Cellular Services, Inc.
Phones Unlimited
The Phone Broker
Utility Consumers' Action Network

OPPOSITION

AirTouch Communications
BellSouth Cellular Corporation
Cellular Carriers Association of California
Los Angeles Cellular Telephone Company

COMMITTEE ACTION

August 8, 1996 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 10-0).

STATUS

Approved by the Governor (8/8/96), Chapter 675, Statutes of 1996.

Senate Bill 1099 (Alquist)

DESCRIPTION

Allows water companies to use the proceeds of past sales of property for reinvestment in future infrastructure. Specifically, this bill: requires the Public Utilities Commission, PUC, in any proceeding pending after January 1, 1996, to allow water corporations to retroactively use the proceeds from the past sales of unnecessary assets made prior to January 1, 1996, to prospectively reinvest these proceeds in new water infrastructure within an eight year period.

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown.

SUPPORT

William Bagley
California Water Service

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

THIS MEASURE WAS NEVER HEARD IN ANY POLICY COMMITTEE.

STATUS

Apporved by the Governor (9/27/96), Chapter 965, Statutes of 1996.

Senate Bill 1140 (Peace)

DESCRIPTION

Mandates third party verification as the only means for reconfirming a change made in (long distance) residential (not business) telephone service in California. Defines "independent" third party verification as that done by a separate company, not managed, controlled, or (5%) owned by the telco service provider seeking new service, operating physically separate facilities, and not deriving commissions from sales confirmations made. Makes customer verification records available to the customer, the Attorney General, or Public Utilities Commission (PUC) and prohibits specified misuses.

FISCAL EFFECT

PUC reports minor and absorbable cost to Utilities Reimbursement Account.

SUPPORT

Utility Consumers' Action Network (UCAN)
MCI Telecommunications Corporation
California Public Utilities Commission

OPPOSITION

AT&T

COMMITTEE ACTION

June 6, 1996 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 10-0).

STATUS

Approved by the Governor (8/17/96), Chapter 358, Statutes of 1996.

Senate Bill 1243 (Kelley)

DESCRIPTION

This bill permits a mutual water company to sell water to any federal agency that provides fire protection or operates park facilities, or to transfer water to another entity pursuant to state or federal law, without causing it to become a public utility subject to the jurisdiction of the California Public Utility Commission. The bill also eliminates the requirement that a contract for water service be made prior to October 1, 1961.

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown.

SUPPORT

Alandale Mutual Water Company (source)
Association of California Water Agencies

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

June 12, 1995 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee with recommendation to Consent (Vote: 16-0).

STATUS

Approved by the Governor (8/10/95) - Chapter 420, Statutes of 1995.

Senate Bill 1398 (Johnston)

DESCRIPTION

Makes technical and substantive changes in the California Tourism Marketing Act. Declares that the Act furthers the state government goal of nonideological and commercial communications having the characteristics of and protections of government speech. Makes the Deputy Secretary of the Trade and Commerce Agency, Office of Tourism, also serve as executive director and secretary of the The Caligourism Commission. Adds Code of Civil Procedures protections to the California appeals of businesses of assessments and amounts of assessments. Tightens annual reports and audits.

FISCAL EFFECT

None.

SUPPORT

(Verified 5/21/96)

California Travel Industry Association (sponsor)

OPPOSITION

None on file.

COMMITTEE ACTION

July 2, 1996. - Passed Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee. (Vote: 10-0) After some 15 pages of substantive amendments, the bill was not rereferred to U& C committee.

STATUS

Approved by the Governor (9/23/96), Chapter 795, Statutes of 1996.

Senate Bill 1572 (Monteith)

DESCRIPTION

Makes the Secretary of Food and Agriculture an ex-officio, non-voting, member of the California State World Trade Commission.

FISCAL EFFECT

Minor costs to accommodate the new members administrative and per diem expenses.

SUPPORT

Agricultural Council of California

OPPOSITION

None recorded.

COMMITTEE ACTION

June 5, 1996 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 11 - 0).

STATUS

Approved by the Governor (7/17/96), Chapter 175, Statutes of 1996.

Senate Bill 1641 (Marks)

DESCRIPTION

This bill adds "inland pilots" to an existing provision of law that exempts certain vessels from all pilotage charges unless a pilot is actually employed. The bill also makes it explicit that specified vessels must use a licensed pilot or inland pilot.

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown.

SUPPORT

None reported to committee.

OPPOSITION

None reported to committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

June 25, 1996 - Passed by the Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 13-0).

STATUS

Approved by the Governor (9/29/96), Chapter 1036, Statutes of 1996.

Senate Bill 1662 (Kelly)

DESCRIPTION

This bill would provide that if any provision of the Public Utilities Act or the Highway Carriers' Act, as applied to specified carriers, is invalid, the application of the other valid provisions of those acts shall not be affected. The bill would also require that all moneys paid into the Transportation Rate Fund by highway common carriers, cement carriers, integrated intermodal small package carriers and highway permit carriers, except for moneys paid by household goods carriers, be used by the Public Utilities Commission solely for the purposes permitted by state and federal law, among which are the regulation of the safety and financial responsibility of carriers. These provisions would be repealed on January 1, 1998.

FISCAL EFFECT

None.

SUPPORT

California Public Utilities Commission

OPPOSITION

None reported to committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

June 18, 1996 - Passed by the Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 13-0).

STATUS

Approved by the Governor (9/29/96), Chapter 1037, Statutes of 1996.

Senate Bill 1741 (Johnston)

DESCRIPTION

This bill would increase the pilotage rates in effect on December 31, 1996 by 4% on January 1, 1997; the rates in effect on December 31, 1997 by 3% on January 1, 1998; and the rates in effect on December 31, 1998 by 3% on January 1, 1999

FISCAL EFFECT

None.

SUPPORT

San Francisco Bar Pilots

OPPOSITION

None reported to committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

June 25, 1996 - Passed by the Utilities and Commerce Committee with recommendation to consent (Vote: 13-0).

STATUS

Approved by the Governor (9/30/96), Chapter 115, Statutes of 1996.

Senate Bill 1952 (Mello)

DESCRIPTION

This bill would authorize the California Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to provide for economic development utility rates to be applied to industries or businesses located in federal rural enterprise communities.

FISCAL EFFECT

Extending these programs to federal rural enterprise communities would not add significant costs to the PUC's operations.

SUPPORT

City of Watsonville (sponsor)
Pacific Gas and Electric Company

OPPOSITION

None reported to committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

June 19, 1996 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 10-0).

STATUS

Approved by the Governor (7/22/96), Chapter 215, Statutes of 1996.

Senate Bill 2023 (Costa)

DESCRIPTION

This bill would enact the Enterprise Zone Act, to provide for the designation of zones by the Trade and Commerce Agency, according to specified criteria, pursuant to which certain entities within each zone may receive regulatory, tax, and other incentives for economic and employment development and private investment.

FISCAL EFFECT

Franchise Tax Board estimates a 1997 revenue loss of \$41 million for existing zones.

SUPPORT

City of Los Angeles
City of Oakland
El Sereno Chamber of Commerce
Harbor City/Harbor Gateway Chamber of Commerce
Gulf Industries, Inc.
City of Bakersfield
Kern Economic Development Corporation
Sacramento Housing & Redevelopment Agency
California Association for Local Economic Development
Greater Bakersfield Chamber of Commerce
City of Stockton
City of San Jose
West Sacramento Chamber of Commerce
League of California Cities
City of Santa Ana
City of Pittsburg

OPPOSITION

None reported to committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

June 25, 1996 - Passed the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 11-0).

STATUS

Approved by the Governor (9/26/96). Chapter 955, Statutes of 1996.

Senate Concurrent Resolution 4 (Petris)

DESCRIPTION

This bill would encourage the establishment of a sister state relationship between California and the Italian region of Umbria.

FISCAL EFFECT

No fiscal impact.

SUPPORT

None reported to Committee.

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

June 13, 1995 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 11-0).

STATUS

Chaptered by the Secretary of State (6/21/95), Chapter 39, Statutes of 1995.

Senate Concurrent Resolution 11 (Johnston)

DESCRIPTION

This bill would encourage the establishment of programs for a sister state relationship between the Altai Republic of the Russian Federation and the State of California that will facilitate the exchange of cultural and environmental information, and ultimately promote mutual international trade and commerce.

FISCAL EFFECT

None.

SUPPORT

None reported to Committee.

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

June 13, 1995 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 12-0).

STATUS

Chaptered by the Secretary of State (6/29/95), Chapter 45, Statutes of 1995.

Senate Concurrent Resolution 19 (Russell)

DESCRIPTION

This resolution resolves to encourage the motion picture and television industries to aid in efforts to curb the trends of sexual promiscuity and violence in the United States by voluntarily adopting programming designed to meet these goals.

FISCAL EFFECT

None.

SUPPORT

Traditional Values Coalition (Sponsor)
Committee on Moral Concerns
American Family Association
Morality in Media, Inc.
CHOICES (Teen Awareness, Inc.)
Children's Rights Council
Dr. Leonard Eron, Institute for Social Research, Univ. of Mich.
Focus on the Family

OPPOSITION

American Civil Liberties Union
Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA)
L.I.F.E. AIDS Lobby

COMMITTEE ACTION

June 12, 1995 - Adopted by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 12-0).

STATUS

Chaptered by Secretary of State (6/21/95), Chapter 40, Statutes of 1995.

Senate Joint Resolution 48 (Kopp and Kelly)

DESCRIPTION

Memorializes the President and Congress to provide 80 percent of the state's capital costs for constructing new roads and truck inspection terminals along the Mexican border due to increased trade of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).

FISCAL EFFECT

None, unless and until the state must provide 20 percent matching funds for highway and vehicle inspection facility.

SUPPORT

None reported to Committee.

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

July 8, 1996 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 10-0)

STATUS

Chaptered by the Secretary of States (7/12/96), Chapter 37, Statutes of 1996.

Senate Concurrent Resolution 54 (Marks)

DESCRIPTION

Seeks to establish a sister-state relationship between the Province of Chung Chong Nam Do, Republic of Korea, and the State of California.

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown.

SUPPORT

James Kim
San Francisco Korean Chamber of Commerce
Seung Choi
Chung Chong Nam Do Province
Alex Park
A.J. Ham

OPPOSITION

None reported to committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

June 5, 1996 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 10-0).

STATUS

Chaptered by the Secretary of State (7/05/96), Chapter 33, Statutes of 1996.

Assembly Bill 118 (Conroy)

DESCRIPTION

This bill would make it a felony/misdemeanor to file false insurance documents with the California Public Utilities Commission.

FISCAL EFFECT

None.

SUPPORT

California Public Utilities Commission
California Trucking Association

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

March 27, 1995 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 14-0).

STATUS

Died on the Assembly Inactive File.

Assembly Bill 140 (Hannigan)

DESCRIPTION

This bill would have required every electrical corporation that furnishes electricity to an agricultural producer and every gas corporation that furnishes gas to an agricultural producer to separately state the rate and the total amount that comprise the demand charge, as defined, on each energy bill presented to the agricultural producer.

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown.

SUPPORT

None filed with committee.

OPPOSITION

None filed with committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

None.

STATUS

Died in the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee.

Assembly Bill 193 (K. Murray)

DESCRIPTION

This bill would require the awarding department to also consider whether the bidder, in its ownership, meets the definition of minority, women, or disabled veteran business enterprise and would require the awarding department to make a good faith effort to send invitations to bid or requests for proposals, as the case may be, through periodic public outreach activities, to encourage potential bidders who, in the composition of their ownership, meet those definitions to become qualified for listing in prebid notices and to bid on state contracts .

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown

SUPPORT

None on file.

OPPOSITION

None on file.

COMMITTEE ACTION

None.

STATUS

Died in the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee.

Assembly Bill 230 (Tucker)

DESCRIPTION

This bill enacts the Filante-Tucker Prehospital Emergency Medical Services System Funding Act. The bill would establish the Prehospital Emergency Medical Services System Fund, and the Poison Control Center Fund.

This bill reduces the maximum amount of the surcharge imposed by the Emergency Telephone Users Surcharge Law from 3/4 of 1% to 7/10 of 1%, and would provide for 30% of the moneys collected to be deposited in the State Emergency Telephone Number Account for expenditure upon appropriation by the Legislature. The remaining 70% of the funds would be used to provide reimbursement for costs associated with prehospital emergency medical services and the administration of poison control centers.

FISCAL EFFECT

\$47.5 million reduction in revenues available to the state's 9-1-1 system. These revenues currently are used to (a) lease or purchase emergency telephone equipment and lines; (b) reimburse local governments for some of their costs of running the emergency telephone service; and (c) cover state administrative costs of the program. \$45 million of redirected surcharge revenue.

SUPPORT

California Ambulance Association
California Association of Regional Poison
Centers
California Firefighters

San Francisco Ambulance Service
Santa Fe Springs Firemen's Association
Service Employees International Union
Vacaville Fire Fighters

OPPOSITION

AT&T
California Taxpayers' Association
Pacific Bell

BellSouth Cellular Corporation
GTE

COMMITTEE ACTION

April 26, 1995 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 9-3).

STATUS

Failed passage in Assembly Appropriations Committee.

Assembly Bill 243 (Battin)

DESCRIPTION

This bill extends the life of an enterprize zone from 15 years to 20 years (applicable to the original 10 zones only). Also, the bill would increase the percentage of the area a city or county could propose to be expanded as an enterprize zone from 15% to 25%.

FISCAL EFFECT

No fiscal effect until fiscal year 2001-2002 when ten enterprize zone designations will expire, resulting in a projected revenue loss of \$11 million (\$1.1 per enterprize zone).

Unknown fiscal effect caused by the expansion of enterprize zones.

SUPPORT

Riverside Economic Development Agency
League of California Cities

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

April 17, 1995 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee with recommendations to Consent (Vote: 14-0).

STATUS

Died in Senate Appropriations.

Assembly Bill 280 (Battin)

DESCRIPTION

This bill would allow persons 62 years of age and older and with a statement of medical need by a physician to allow an increase in the baseline quantity on electricity and gas bills in consideration of the increased heating and cooling needs of those persons.

FISCAL EFFECT

Minor, if any.

SUPPORT

None reported to Committee.

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

None.

STATUS

Died in Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee

Assembly Bill 288 (Cannella)

DESCRIPTION

This bill would have required the utilities to provide peace officers, as defined, with customer information with respect to investigations relating to unlawful drug trafficking or manufacturing, or both, as well as do missing or abducted children. The bill would have also required a written statement supporting the request instead of an affidavit.

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown.

SUPPORT

California State Sheriffs' Association

OPPOSE

ACLU
Southern California Gas Company

COMMITTEE ACTION

April 17, 1995 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 10-1).

STATUS

Failed passage in the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Assembly Bill 384 (Goldsmith)

DESCRIPTION

This bill repeals provisions that require an awarding state department, taking bids in connection with the award of a contract for professional bond services, to include in the bid conditions a requirement that the bidder set forth information regarding subcontracts that would be utilized to meet minority and women business enterprise participation goals.

The bill also repeals the authorization to local agencies that they may require a bidder to meet or make a good faith effort to meet these goals, repeals provisions regarding certification of minority, women, and disadvantaged business enterprises, and repeals the requirement that in awarding a state contract, departments award the contract to the lowest responsible bidder who meets or makes a good faith effort to meet minority and women business enterprise goals.

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown.

SUPPORT

Ellias Construction Company
Anderson & Doig Structural Engineers

Homeowners of Encino

OPPOSITION

Asian American Architects and Engineers
Asian Business Association
CA Black Chamber of Commerce
CA Business Council for Equal
Opportunity
CA Civil Rights Network Sacramento

CA School Employees Association
California Women Lawyers
Carefree Greens, Inc.
Chaudhary & Associates, Inc.
Control Design Systems
Council of Asian American

COMMITTEE ACTION

January 12, 1996 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 9-5).

STATUS

Failed passage on Assembly Floor (1/31/96).

Assembly Bill 456 (Bustamante)

DESCRIPTION

This bill would provide for the designation of the currently proposed Sequoia Enterprise Zone as an enterprise zone. Declares an urgency.

FISCAL EFFECT

\$1 million annual revenue loss to the General Fund.

SUPPORT

City of Tulare
Visalia Chamber of Commerce
Latin American Law Enforcement Assn.

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

March 27, 1995 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 12-1).

STATUS

Died in Senate Appropriations.

Assembly Bill 484 (Burton)

DESCRIPTION

Extends the sunset date by which the San Francisco Bar Pilots rates are determined to January 1, 1997.

FISCAL EFFECT

None.

SUPPORT

San Francisco Bar Pilots
Pacific Merchant Shipping Association

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

March 27, 1995 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee with a recommendation to Consent (Vote: 15-0).

STATUS

Died in Senate Appropriations.

Assembly Bill 506 (Napolitano)

DESCRIPTION

This bill would have required the director to establish, no later than June 30, 1996, and state the recommendation of the Legislature that the Governor instruct the director to provide for the establishment, from existing resources, of an overseas trade office in Canada and one in South America. It would require that these offices be funded from existing resources.

FISCAL EFFECT

The offices, if established, would be funded through existing resources.

SUPPORT

California Business Alliance
The Titan Group
El Monte/South El Monte Chamber of Commerce

OPPOSITION

California Free Trade Zone

COMMITTEE ACTION

April 17, 1995 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 10-1).

STATUS

Died in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

Assembly Bill 541 (Archie-Hudson)

DESCRIPTION

Existing law requires the annual fee paid by specified public utilities to be established by the Public Utilities Commission to produce a total amount equal to the authorized commission budget for the same year, including, among other things, an appropriate reserve to regulate public utilities. This bill would permit the reserve to be allocated by class of utility.

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown.

SUPPORT

None on file with committee.

OPPOSITION

None on file with committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

None.

STATUS

Died in the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee.

Assembly Bill AB 559 (Archie-Hudson)

DESCRIPTION

This bill would increase the maximum amount of bond which secures the payment of the claims of subhaulers and employee-lessors of a highway carrier from \$2,000 to \$10,000.

FISCAL EFFECT

None.

SUPPORT

None reported to Committee.

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

None.

STATUS

Died in the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee.

Assembly Bill 648 (Cannella)

DESCRIPTION

This bill would require electrical corporations to make available to qualifying food processors, the option of transmission and distribution service for electricity purchased from the food processor's choice of supply. The transmission and distribution service option would commence January 1, 1996, and continue until December 31, 1999, or until the commission approves nondiscriminatory transmission and distribution service access and reasonable rates for food processors, or otherwise approves rates that effectively lower the cost of electric services to food processors to a level at or below the average cost of similarly situated customers in the United States, whichever occurs first.

This bill would impose a state-mandated local program by creating a new crime.

FISCAL EFFECT

None.

SUPPORT

California League of Food Processors (sponsor)
Independent Energy Producers
Agricultural Energy Consumers Association
Nestle USA, Inc.
Los Gatos Tomato Products
Sun Garden Packing Company

OPPOSITION

CPUC
PG&E
Southern California Edison
Engineers and Scientists of California, MEBA, AFL-CIO
Coalition of California Utility Employees

COMMITTEE ACTION

January 11, 1996 - Failed passage in Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee.

STATUS

Died in Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee.

Assembly Bill 671 (K.Murray)

DESCRIPTION

This bill would require the passenger stage corporations to undergo terminal inspection prior to beginning operations. The bill also requires an additional application fee of \$15 per tour bus or a maximum fee of \$6,500 for each operating passenger stage corporation.

FISCAL EFFECT

Minor revenue increase (less than \$5,000) to the Motor Vehicle Account.

SUPPORT

California Public Utilities Commission
California Teamsters Public Affairs Council

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

April 17, 1995 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 11-4).

STATUS

Died in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

Assembly Bill 689 (McPherson)

DESCRIPTION

This bill would require the commission to annually investigate every business listed in every classified directory of telephone subscribers as advertising or holding out to the public to perform households goods carrier services and determine which businesses are engaging in that business without a permit in violation of law. The bill would require a telephone utility to refuse service to a new customer and disconnect service of an existing customer upon receipt of a writing signed by a magistrate finding that probable cause exists to believe that the customer is in violation of that act, as prescribed.

FISCAL EFFECT

None.

SUPPORT

California Moving and Storage Association

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

April 3, 1995 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee with recommendation to Consent (Vote: 12-0).

STATUS

Died in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

Assembly Bill 709 (Vasconcellos)

DESCRIPTION

This bill would, until January 1, 1999, also require the office to establish a Japan-California Advisory Team to consult with the Governor and the Secretary of Trade and Commerce in regard to ways that California and Japan may collaborate and promote the relationship between the two entities. It would authorize the Director of Export Development to create similar teams regarding other Asian economies for these purposes.

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown

SUPPORT

None on file.

OPPOSITION

None on file.

COMMITTEE ACTION

April 3, 1995 - Passed the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee with the recommendation: To Consent (Vote: 10-0).

STATUS

Governor's veto stricken from file. VETOED

Assembly Bill 710 (Vasconcellos)

DESCRIPTION

This bill would establish the California-Osaka Cooperation Account in the California State World Trade Commission Fund, a special account to be funded solely by contributions from private and nonprofit entities, which would be continuously appropriated to the commission for the purpose of implementing the Amended Cooperation Agreement between California and Osaka, Japan, and promoting the relationship between the state and the Osaka Prefectural Government.

This bill would also require the agency to extend an invitation to the Osaka Prefectural Government to place, at its own expense, one of its personnel in the California Office of Export Development to collaborate with the state in the promotion of exports from California to Osaka, Japan.

FISCAL EFFECT

None.

SUPPORT

OCL Technologies
Japanese Chamber of Commerce of Northern California
Consulate General of Japan

OPPOSITION

None on file.

COMMITTEE ACTION

April 3, 1995 - Passed the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 12-0).

STATUS

Governor's veto stricken from file. VETOED

Assembly Bill 799 (Boland)

DESCRIPTION

This bill would make a technical revision to the procedures by which public utilities apply for rate changes.

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown.

SUPPORT

None reported to Committee.

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

None.

STATUS

Died in the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee.

Assembly Bill 814 (K.Murray)

DESCRIPTION

This bill would express the policy of the state and the intent of the Legislature that the commission and other affected state agencies take into account the effects of the federal Energy Policy Act of 1992, on the State of California.

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown.

SUPPORT

None reported to Committee.

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

None.

STATUS

Died in the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee.

Assembly Bill 845 (Conroy)

DESCRIPTION

This bill would have prohibited the commission from authorizing a public utility to use funds that are paid by ratepayers for rebates on the purchases of electric vehicle batteries, or electric vehicles, or both and natural gas vehicles.

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown.

SUPPORT

California Manufacturers Association
Toward Utility Rate Normalization
Western States Petroleum Association

OPPOSITION

California Electric Transportation Coalition
San Diego Gas & Electric
Southern California Edison Company

COMMITTEE ACTION

January 11, 1996 - Passed the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 9-4).

STATUS

Died in the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee.

Assembly Bill 991 (Bowler)

DESCRIPTION

This bill expresses the findings and declarations of the Legislature that it is in the state's interest to expeditiously provide enhanced "911" emergency telephone service to all areas of California, upon reaching those areas by the present system. It also makes various technical, nonsubstantive changes.

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown.

SUPPORT

California State Sheriffs' Association.

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee

COMMITTEE ACTION

None.

STATUS

Died in the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee.

Assembly Bill 993 (Martinez)

DESCRIPTION

This bill would require the commission in any proceeding that restructures the provision of electrical services to provide for a more competitive market, and to follow specified guidelines.

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown costs to the PUC.

SUPPORT

TURN

OPPOSITION

Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E)

COMMITTEE ACTION

July 13, 1995 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 15-0).

STATUS

Died in the Senate Energy, Utilities, and Communications Committee.

Assembly Bill 1048 (Conroy)

DESCRIPTION

This bill would require regulated utilities that own transmission to provide transmission service to power producers who wish to move power from where it is produced to other facilities that they own that are at a different location.

FISCAL EFFECT

None.

SUPPORT

Independent Energy Producers (Sponsor)
California Manufacturers Assn. (Sponsor)
County of Sonoma
Jefferson Smurfit Corporation
California League of Food Processors
Dow Chemical
Agricultural Energy Consumers Assn.
California Forestry Assn.
Regional Energy Management Assn. (consists of approx. 180 public schools)
Sithe Energies, Inc.

OPPOSITION

Pacific Gas and Electric
Southern California Edison
San Diego Gas and Electric
Sacramento Municipal Utility District

COMMITTEE ACTION

April 17, 1995 - Passed the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote 12-1) .

STATUS

Died in Senate Energy, Utilities and Telecommunications Committee.

Assembly Bill 1081 (Hannigan)

DESCRIPTION

This bill would require the Trade and Commerce Agency to designate the West Sacramento Program Area as an enterprise zone.

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown.

SUPPORT

None reported to committee.

OPPOSITION

None reported to committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

April 17, 1995 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 14-0).

STATUS

Died in the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Assembly Bill 1123 (Sher)

DESCRIPTION

This bill would require the commission, in issuing a final decision in a specified proceeding relating to electric industry restructuring, to comply with specified criteria. The bill would require each public utility and each publicly-owned utility to establish a nonbypassable, usage-based charge on local distribution service to fund investments in various programs, including energy conservation programs, and exclude the expenditures for those programs from rates. The bill would permit any public agency to serve as an aggregator in order to purchase electricity and electrical services on behalf of residents and businesses within its jurisdiction.

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown.

SUPPORT

None reported to Committee.

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

July 13, 1995 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee with a recommendation to Consent (Vote 15-0).

STATUS

Died in Senate Energy, Utilities, and Communications Committee.

Assembly Bill 1165 (Morrissey)

DESCRIPTION

This bill would define "rates established for gas utilized as a fuel by an electric plant in the generation of electricity" as only those rates established by the commission and set forth in the gas corporation's tariffs on file with the commission at which the gas corporation shall provide service.

FISCAL EFFECT

None.

SUPPORT

SoCalGas

OPPOSITION

California Cogeneration Council
Inland Container Corp.
University Energy
Calpine
Sithe Energies, Inc.
Simpson Paper Co.
Tidelands Oil Production Co.
Jefferson Smurfit Corp.

COMMITTEE ACTION

April 3, 1995 - Subject matter be referred (U&C Vote: 12-0).

STATUS

Died in the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee.

Assembly Bill 1202 (Woods)

DESCRIPTION

This bill would require that the commission direct that a set-aside of future electricity supply from renewable resource electricity generators be established and maintained to establish a renewable portfolio standard and a biomass portfolio standard, as defined , and direct that a designated amount of electricity on an annual basis, be purchased by electricity providers, including local governmental entities, from renewable energy and solid fuel biomass electricity generating plants located in California. The bill would require that compliance with the renewable portfolio standard and the biomass portfolio standard would be governed by the Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission. The bill would require the Secretary of the California Environmental Protection Agency, in consultation with specified entities, to evaluate and recommend to the Legislature public policy strategies, and the feasibility of shifting costs from electricity ratepayers to other beneficiaries, and implementation requirements for the equitable and effective allocation of biomass power costs that ensure the retention of the economic and environmental benefits of the biomass industry while promoting measurable reduction in real costs to electricity ratepayers.

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown.

SUPPORT

California Integrated Waste Management Board
California Rice Industry Association
Marin Conservation League
City of Woodland
County of Nevada
California Biomass Energy Alliance
Shasta County
Solid Waste Association of North America
High Sierra Resource Conservation and Development Area
County of Nevada Board of Supervisors
Rio Bravo Fresno; Rocklin; Jasmin
Fairhaven Power Company
Thermo Fuels
Tracy Operators
Burney Forest Products
Colmac Energy
Plumas County
Tulare County
Northern Sierra AQMD
City of Sunnyvale

CA Licensed Foresters Association
Comet Energy Company
Handel & Wilson Farms
Shearwater Capital Corporation
Shafter-Wasco Ginning Company
Belridge Farms
Billings Ranches
Apollo Wood and Metal Recycling
Crane Mills
Almond Growers Council
Almond Hullers & Processors Association
Wilson Ag
Merz & Merz
Bay Area Pallet Company
South Tahoe Refuse Company
Payless Building Supply
Williamson Equipment
P&M Cedar Products
Wheelabrator Environmental Systems
Sierra Pacific Industries
City of Visalia

OPPOSITION

California Manufacturers Association
Fairness for Small Business
Consumers First
PG&E
Concerned Shareholders of California
Southern California Edison Company

COMMITTEE ACTION

July 13, 1995 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 9-2).

STATUS

Died in the Senate Energy, Utilities, and Communications Committee.

Assembly Bill 1243 (Lee)

DESCRIPTION

This bill requires that any prebid conference held by a department awarding a state contract include potential minority, women, and disabled veteran business enterprises.

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown.

SUPPORT

None reported to Committee.

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

None.

STATUS

Died in the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee.

Assembly Bill 1256 (Caldera)

DESCRIPTION

This bill extends the reporting requirement of state agencies regarding minority, women and disabled veteran business enterprises.

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown.

SUPPORT

None reported to Committee.

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

None.

STATUS

Died in the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee.

DESCRIPTION

Existing law requires the Public Utilities Commission to require every gas corporation to revise its transportation tariffs and conditions of service to eliminate all components that assess shippers of gas produced in California for the costs of interstate transmission of gas produced outside of the state. Existing law requires the commission to consider and approve these tariffs on or before October 1, 1994. This bill would remove the October 1, 1994, date.

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown.

SUPPORT

None reported to Committee.

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

None.

STATUS

Died in the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee.

Assembly Bill 1472 (Morrissey)

DESCRIPTION

Under the existing Public Utilities Act, "electric plant" is defined to include all real estate, fixtures, and personal property owned, controlled, operated, or managed in connection with or to facilitate the production, generation, transmission, delivery, or furnishing of electricity for light, heat, or power, and all conduits, ducts, or other devices, materials, apparatus, or property for containing, holding, or carrying conductors used or to be used for the transmission of electricity for light, heat, or power. This bill would include, without qualification, all of the above within the definition of "electric plant."

FISCAL EFFECT

None.

SUPPORT

California Large Energy Consumers Association (Sponsor)

OPPOSITION

None reported to committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

May 8, 1995 - Amended and re-refer to the Committee on Utilities and Commerce (Vote: 11-0).

STATUS

Died in the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee.

Assembly Bill 1576 (Escutia)

DESCRIPTION

Existing law requires the Public Utilities Commission, upon scheduling hearings and specifying the scope of issues to be heard in any proceeding involving an electrical, gas, telephone, railroad, or water corporation, or a highway carrier, to assign an administrative law judge to preside over the hearings, either sitting alone or assisting the commission or commissioners who will hear the case. This bill would have prohibited ex parte communications by parties to specified commission proceedings and commission decisionmakers, as defined, and provide penalties for a violation of its provisions, which would impose a state-mandated local program by creating new crimes.

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown costs to the PUC.

SUPPORT

TURN

OPPOSITION

San Diego Gas and Electric
Southern California Edison Company
California Manufacturers Association

COMMITTEE ACTION

None.

STATUS

Died in the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee.

Assembly Bill 1588 (Conroy)

DESCRIPTION

This bill states that it is the intent of the Legislature that all telecommunications markets be open to competition by 1997 and that the very smallest telcos be afforded the same waivers as those granted under the federal Telecommunications of 1996.

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown.

SUPPORT

California Telephone Association

OPPOSITION

California Cable Telephone Association

COMMITTEE ACTION

January 11, 1996 - Passed by Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 11-0).

STATUS

Died in the Senate Energy, Utilities, and Communications Committee.

Assembly Bill 1621 (Alby, Baca, Bowler, and Brown)

DESCRIPTION

This bill would have authorized the board of supervisors of a county, by a 4/5 vote, to sell or enter into a lease, concession, or managerial contract involving county property that was acquired from the federal government due to the closure of a military installation without complying with those otherwise applicable procedures. Existing law contains various provisions concerning military property, including a provision that requires the Governor to appoint a person to represent the state in Washington D.C. to identify revenue sources available to the state in connection with the closure and conversion of military bases in the state. Would have appropriated \$270,000, as specified, from the General Fund to the Controller for allocation to the Save Our Shipyard committee, the Base Realignment and Closure Commission 95 Task Force, Mission McClellan, and the Committee to Retain the Sierra Army Depot for specified military facility retention efforts.

Would have required these organizations to report to the Legislature, before each it is dissolved, on how, where, and the purposes for which the funds appropriated by the bill were expended.

FISCAL EFFECT

The HWCRCF is General Fund (GF) fungible (meaning that specified funds can be appropriated for other uses) and the amount appropriated will not be available for appropriation to the GF for the current budget year.

SUPPORT

Save Our Shipyard Committee
City of Long Beach
Federal Employees Metal Trades Council, Long Beach AFL-CIO

OPPOSITION

Southern California Marine Association
Recreational Boaters of California

COMMITTEE ACTION

April 25, 1995 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 9-0).

STATUS

Died in the Senate Local Government Committee.

Assembly Bill 1768 (Martinez)

DESCRIPTION

Requires the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to submit to the Legislature a report of all of the Commission's transactions and proceedings for the preceding fiscal year, along with suggestions and recommendations it deems of value, by December 1st of each year. This is the same report sent to the Governor each year.

FISCAL EFFECT

None.

SUPPORT

None reported to Committee.

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

April 17, 1995 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee with recommendation to Consent (Vote: 14-0).

STATUS

Died in the Senate Energy, Utilities, and Communications Committee.

Assembly Bill 1785 (Brewer)

DESCRIPTION

Consultant note: This bill was vetoed by the governor at the request of the author due to a technical mistake that frustrated the purpose of the legislation. The bill, in its entirety, was amended into AB 1770, with a correction of the technical error.

This bill would, with respect to municipally owned utilities and municipal utility districts, prohibit the seeking of any recovery of charges or penalties for the furnishing of services from any subsequent tenant or the property owner due to nonpayment of charges by a previous tenant. For this purpose, a subsequent tenant would not include an adult who lived at the residence when the charges or penalties accrued. The bill would prohibit these public utilities from demanding or receiving security in an amount that exceeds specified amounts. The bill would authorize the public utility, in the event of tenant nonpayment of all or a portion of the bill, to apply the deposit to the final bill issued when service is terminated.

This bill would, with respect to municipally owned utilities and municipal utility districts, authorize the public utility to collect a deposit from a tenant service applicant prior to establishing an account for the tenant. The bill would prohibit these public utilities from demanding or receiving security in an amount that exceeds specified amounts. The bill would authorize these public utilities, in the event of tenant nonpayment of all or a portion of the bill, to apply the deposit to the final bill issued when service is terminated. The bill would prohibit the municipal corporation or district from requiring that service to subsequent tenants be furnished on the account of the landlord or property owner unless the property owner consents through a written agreement.

Existing law provides that accounts of a municipal utility district that are delinquent become a lien on the property to which services were rendered, with the force, effect, and priority of a judgment lien, when a certificate to this effect is filed for recordation with the county recorder. This bill would exempt residential property from this provision. This bill would not apply to master-metered apartment buildings.

FISCAL EFFECT

Minor absorbable costs.

SUPPORT

California Apartment Association

OPPOSITION

California Municipal Utility Association

Association of California Water Agencies
League of California Cities

COMMITTEE ACTION

April 3, 1995 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 11-1).

STATUS

Vetoed by the Governor (1/04/96) at author's request.

Assembly Bill 1852 (Sher)

DESCRIPTION

This bill would, to the extent permitted by federal law, appropriate \$10,000,000 of those funds to the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission for deposit in California. State Implementation Plan (SIP) Heavy-duty Truck Fund, which the bill would create. Those funds would be continuously appropriated to the commission for the purpose of providing grants to purchasers of low-emission heavy-duty trucks, as specified. The funds would be disbursed by the Controller, upon the completion of a Department of Finance audit of available funds, and subject to approval by the Director of Finance as to which court judgment or federal agency order is the proper source of the funds. The bill would require the commission to support the development of heavy-duty truck emission reduction strategies, as specified.

FISCAL EFFECT

None.

SUPPORT

CPUC (sponsor)

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

July 13, 1995 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 14-0).

STATUS

Died in the Senate Committee on Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee.

Assembly Bill 1889 (Conroy)

DESCRIPTION

This bill requires the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to permit telephone corporations to offer call identification services, and would permit the withholding of the display of the caller's telephone number on a per call basis, or a per line basis at the customer's option.

FISCAL EFFECT

According to the CPUC this bill would result in additional costs of approximately \$118,000 per year. This cost would be charged against the Utility Reimbursement Account.

SUPPORT

Pacific Bell
GTE, California Inc.

OPPOSITION

American Civil Liberties Union
California Common Cause
California Department of Finance
California Public Utilities Commission
Consumer Action
Planned Parenthood Affiliates of California
Toward Utility Rate Normalization
Utility Consumers' Action Network

COMMITTEE ACTION

April 17, 1995 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee with amendments (Vote: 10-1).

STATUS

Failed passage in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

Assembly Bill 1914 (Escutia)

DESCRIPTION

The bill would require each gas corporation that owns the facilities used to deliver gas to a school operating in California to inspect the facilities used to provide gas service to the school premises at least once a year.

FISCAL EFFECT

None.

SUPPORT

TURN

La Alanza (Alliance for Immigrant Rights)
Save Our Services (Sponsor)
California Immigrant Workers Assoc (CIWA)
Mexican American Legal Defense Fund (MALDEF)
Jewish Labor Committee
Korean Immigrant Workers Advocates
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (Local Union 465)
Los Angeles Unified School District
Los Angeles County Office of Education
Long Beach Unified School District
Advocates for Consumer Equity
California Labor Federation

OPPOSITION

Southern California Gas Company
San Diego Gas & Electric
California Manufacturers Association
California Chapters of the National Electrical Contractors Assn.
Southern California Edison Company

COMMITTEE ACTION

January 22, 1996 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 8-2).

STATUS

Vetoed by the Governor (9/15/96).

Assembly Bill 2075 (Hannigan)

DESCRIPTION

Requires cellular telephone companies, consistent with Federal Communications Commission, FCC guidelines, to provide location technologies to public safety answering points on all 911 calls. Requires the Department of General Services to conduct tests of location technologies at several locations, including Yolo county and its adjoining regions.

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown, but absorbable costs out of 911 funds and on-going operations of effected agencies. Future unknown costs, but no greater than \$30 million out of the special 911 fund for technical solution to wireless location problems. Unknown savings to CHP and costs to local agencies for an incremental transfer of call load from state agencies to other local entities.

SUPPORT

None reported to committee.

OPPOSITION

California Association of Highway Patrolmen

COMMITTEE ACTION

April 22, 1996 - Failed passage in the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 2-6).

STATUS

Died in the Utilities and Commerce Committee.

Assembly Bill 2115 (Bowen)

DESCRIPTION

This bill allows a business to choose not to participate in the Los Angeles County Tourism Marketing Act or pay an assessment if the business notifies the county, the commission and the treasurer/tax collector in writing either prior to, or within 30 days after receiving an assessment bill.

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown.

SUPPORT

Redondo Beach Visitors Bureau
Redondo Beach Chamber of Commerce
Gardena Valley Chamber of Commerce
Best Western Sunrise at Redondo Beach Marina
Blue Moon Saloon
Fat Face Fenners Saloon
Palos Verdes Inn
Palos Verdes Peninsula Chamber of Commerce
South Bay Assoc. of Chambers of Commerce
Culver City Chamber of Commerce
City of Gardena
Redondo Beach Marina

OPPOSITION

Los Angeles Convention and Visitor Bureau
MCA, Inc.

COMMITTEE ACTION

May 6, 1996 - Failed passage by the Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 2-8).

STATUS

Died in the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee.

Assembly Bill 2203 (Rainey)

DESCRIPTION

Authorizes the East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) to impose rates on water on no less than three tiers and on differentials in price that are no more or less than 5 percent above or 5 percent below the cost of service. Continues low income subsidies and water conservation programs.

SUPPORT

Water Allocation Through Equitable Rates
Individual letters (8)

OPPOSITION

CA Municipal Utilities Assoc.
East Bay Municipal Utility District

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown.

COMMITTEE ACTION

May 6, 1996 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 7-4).

STATUS

Died on the Assembly Floor (5/31/96).

Assembly Bill 2249 (Cannella)

DESCRIPTION

This bill would require electrical corporations to make available to qualifying food processors, the option of transmission and distribution service for electricity purchased from the food processor's choice of supply. The option would commence January 1, 1997, and continue until December 31, 2001, or until the commission approves nondiscriminatory transmission and distribution service access and reasonable rates for food processors, or otherwise approves rates that effectively lower the cost of electric services to food processors to a level at or below the average cost of similarly situated customers in the United States, whichever occurs first or an interim direct access option for transmission and distribution services for electricity purchased by any food processing, agricultural, university or school, residential, commercial, industrial, public protection system, and any other customer, provided that specified elements for interim direct access are met.

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown.

SUPPORT

California League of Food Processors (Sponsor)
Teamsters
CA Retailers Assoc
Butterball Turkey Company
CA Poultry Industry Federation

OPPOSITION

PG&E
Coalition of CA Utility Employees
CPUC
SDG&E
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

COMMITTEE ACTION

April 22, 1996 - Failed passage in the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 3-7).

STATUS

Died in the Assembly Utilities And Commerce Committee.

Assembly Bill 2311 (Bustamante)

DESCRIPTION

This bill would provide that specified public utility assistance programs would remain effective irrespective of any legislative or regulatory provisions with regard to the restructuring of the electrical industry.

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown.

SUPPORT

Planning and Conservation League
Agricultural Council of California
Pacific Gas and Electric Company
Coalition of California Utility Employees
Congress of California Seniors

OPPOSITION

None reported to committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

April 15, 1996 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee with a recommendation to Consent (Vote: 10-0).

STATUS

Died in the Senate Energy, Utilities, and Communications Committee.

Assembly Bill 2362 (Knight)

DESCRIPTION

This bill would increase the number of enterprise zones that may be designated to 30, and would specify that one of the designated enterprise zones may be designated an aerospace enterprise zone.

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown.

SUPPORT

None reported to committee.

OPPOSITION

None reported to committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

None.

STATUS

Died in the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee.

Assembly Bill 2444 (Conroy)

DESCRIPTION

Places into statute the current responsibilities of the California Public Utilities Commission (PUC) now in the California Constitution. This bill is intended as a vehicle for the joint Conference Committee on PUC Reform. In addition Conformed companion measures, ACA 43 to SCA 21.

FISCAL EFFECT

None.

SUPPORT

None reported to committee.

OPPOSITION

None reported to committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

April 22, 1996 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 7-1).

STATUS

Died in the Joint Conference Committee on Reform of the California Public Utilities Commission.

Assembly Bill 2456 (Escutia)

DESCRIPTION

As the bill left the Assembly, it required the Trade and Commerce Agency (TCA) to develop a plan for the creation of an economic development incentive zone within the region of the Alameda Corridor.

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown, probably minor, General Fund costs for the TCA to prepare a plan.

SUPPORT

City of Vernon (Sponsor)
City of Long Beach (Sponsor)
Alameda Corridor Transportation Authority
Southern California Edison

OPPOSITION

None reported to committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

April 23, 1996 - Passed by the Utilities and Commerce Committee and re-referred to Committee on Revenue and Taxation (Vote: 13-0).

STATUS

Subject matter changed in Senate. No longer relating to Utilities and Commerce.

Assembly Bill 2549 (Conroy)

DESCRIPTION

Existing law requires that the office of the Public Utilities Commission be in the City and County of San Francisco, and that the commissioners shall elect one of their number as president. The bill would prohibit the president of the commission from serving consecutive terms and limit his or her term to one year.

FISCAL EFFECT

Minor, if any to PUC.

SUPPORT

None on file.

OPPOSITION

None on file.

COMMITTEE ACTION

April 22, 1996 - Passed the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 10-1).

STATUS

Died in the Joint Conference Committee on PUC Reform

Assembly Bill 2576 (Lee)

DESCRIPTION

This bill would provide that a city or county may propose that the enterprise zone or area within the incorporated area be expanded by 20% to include definitive boundaries that are contiguous to the enterprise zone or area.

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown.

SUPPORT

None reported to Committee.

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

None.

STATUS

Died in the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee.

Assembly Bill 2597 (Alby)

DESCRIPTION

This bill would prohibit any person, corporation, electric corporation, or publicly owned electric utility, other than a retail customer's existing electric service provider as of December 20, 1995, from providing partial or full electric service to an existing retail customer, as of December 20, 1995, of an electrical corporation or publicly owned electric utility unless the customer first enters into an agreement with the utility currently providing electric service, to pay a nonbypassable severance fee or competitive transition charge established by the regulatory body for the utility, except as otherwise specified.

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown.

SUPPORT

Calif. Municipal Utilities Assc. (Sponsor)
Northern Calif. Power Assc.
City of Alameda
Southern Calif. Edison

OPPOSITION

Agricultural Energy Consumers Assc.
Western States Petroleum Assc.

COMMITTEE ACTION

May 6, 1996 - Passed the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 13-0).

STATUS

Died in the Senate Energy, Utilities, and Communications Committee.

Assembly Bill 2610 (Morrissey)

DESCRIPTION

This bill would prohibit the operation of the independent system operator and the power exchange, as proposed by the commission from implementing in a specified electrical restructuring decision unless and until the commission adopts findings that adequate electric generation capacity, as defined, will be available to all parts of California and each transmission congestion management zone within the independent system operator grid. To achieve this, the bill would require the commission to establish funding for necessary electric generation units.

This bill would prohibit the commission from authorizing a public utility to encumber or dispose of any electric generation facility unless the commission makes a finding that the facility is not needed to provide adequate electric generation capacity. This bill would require the commission to determine whether a particular facility is needed to provide adequate electric generation capacity and if so, to ensure that the facility remains operational and available.

FISCAL EFFECT

Requests subsidization of those electrical generation plants determined to be necessary to ensure the maintenance of adequate electric generation capacity for the state. Revenue for the funding shall be collected from all electrical distribution customers.

SUPPORT

Coalition of California Utility Employees (Sponsor)
PG&E
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

OPPOSITION

IEP
CPUC
Western States Petroleum Assoc.
Calif. Cogeneration Council

COMMITTEE ACTION

April 22, 1996 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 11-1).

STATUS

Died in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

Assembly Bill 2657 (Kaloogian)

DESCRIPTION

Requires the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to fix the amount of fair compensation to payphone providers for each and every completed intrastate call placed from any payphone located in this state not paid for by the deposit of coins. Exempts 911 and devices for the deaf from payphone payments. Requires payphone providers to register with the PUC and pay a \$25 fee.

FISCAL EFFECT

A new crime or infraction disclaimer.

SUPPORT

Admiral Industries

OPPOSITION

None reported to committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

May 13, 1996 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 7-2)

STATUS

Died in the Senate Energy, Utilities, and Communications Committee.

Assembly Bill 2712 (Conroy)

DESCRIPTION

Conforms California regulation of telephones with federal Telecommunications Act of 1996. Specifically, this bill: requires the California Public Utilities Commission, CPUC, to conform its rules, practices, and procedures with the federal law, as prescribed in the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (P.L. 104-104), wherever the federal law preempts. Wherever federal law does not expressly pre-empt, the CPUC shall continue to transition the telecommunications industry to open competition.

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown costs to the CPUC, if any.

SUPPORT

None reported to committee.

OPPOSITION

California Cable Television Association

COMMITTEE ACTION

None.

STATUS

Died in the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee

Assembly Bill 2875 (Vasconcellos)

DESCRIPTION

Telecommunications: Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN). Requires the California Public Utilities Commission to study the ability of telcos to provide and tariff multiple line ISDN and to report its findings to the Legislature. Specifically, this bill requires the state PUC to investigate ability of telcos to provide and to tariff multiple line ISDN service in California and in other states. Consider the effects of an ISDN rate increase upon ISDN services. Consider benefits of ISDN to residential and commercial users. Makes declarations about uses and values of ISDN.

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown.

SUPPORT

Sieman-Rohm (sponsor)

OPPOSITION

None.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Hearing canceled at the request of the author.

STATUS

Died in the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee.

Assembly Bill 2885 (Brulte)

DESCRIPTION

This bill provides that if the commission, in restructuring the electric power industry permits aggregation, as defined, of electric loads of customers served by regulated investor-owned public utilities for the purpose of obtaining lower rates for electric power, any person, corporation, city, county, city and county, utility district, irrigation district, joint powers authority, or state or other local governmental entity may aggregate electric loads and act as a purchasing agent for electric power for businesses and residents within its jurisdictional boundaries who are served by a regulated investor-owned public utility.

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown.

SUPPORT

California Chamber of Commerce (Sponsor)
Cal-Tax
Fairness For Small Business
Southern California Edison
The National Tax-Limitation Committee
CPUC
Coalition of California Utility Employees
West Covina Chamber of Commerce
Setco
PG&E
Simi Valley Chamber of Commerce
Orange County Business Council
San Diego Gas and Electric
City of Culver City
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (Local 47)
Covina Chamber
WSPA
Orange County Medical Association
Brea Chamber of Commerce
Independent Business Coalition, Inc.

OPPOSITION

Northern California Power Agency

COMMITTEE ACTION

April 22, 1996 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 13-0).

STATUS

Died in the Senate Energy, Utilities, and Communications Committee.

Assembly Bill 2940 (Brulte)

DESCRIPTION

This bill provides that generation assets owned by a public utility prior to January 1, 1997, shall continue to be regulated until the assets have undergone market evaluation pursuant to the CPUC decision on electrical restructuring.

Provides that the ownership or operation of an electric plant used for direct transactions as specified in statute will not make the corporation or person owning such plant a public utility because of those transactions, sales or ownership.

Provides that a corporation or person generating electricity is not an electrical corporation under this section unless the corporation or person owns, manages, or controls electric transmission or distribution facilities dedicated to public use.

Requires that the CPUC facilitate efforts to obtain federal approval: a) For the establishment of the Independent System Operator (ISO); b) The establishment and operation of the Power Exchange (PE). c) For a determination of which transmission and distribution facilities are subject to CPUC jurisdiction. d) For approval of the competition transition charge (CTC).

Requires the CPUC to authorize retail direct transactions subject to the implementation of a nonbypassable CTC. Requires the nonbypassable CTC commence simultaneously with the start of the ISO and PE however, no later than January 1, 1998. Requires the CPUC to develop a phase-in schedule, not to exceed five years, allowing all customers to engage in direct transactions at its conclusion as soon as practicable.

Requires that only voluntary aggregation be permitted. Requires CPUC to identify and determine all CPUC generation assets and obligations collected in rates as of December 20, 1995, which may become uneconomic (stranded assets) in a competitive market.

Requires that these costs will be recovered from all customers in the CTC and that these costs shall: a) Be amortized over a reasonable period and shall not increase rates above levels existing on January 1, 1996; b) Be adjusted periodically and subject to a true up process; c) Be allocated proportionally among all classes of electricity users to ensure proportional recovery as will exist on June 1, 1996. No individual customers will experience rate increases as a result of transition costs.

Requires the CPUC to establish the mechanism to recover the CTCs. Requires that all electric providers contract with the electric corporation for the payment of CTCs by the consumer served by the electric provider in a direct transaction. Requires the CPUC, by way of public hearing, to approve all retentions of generation assets by a public utility owning distribution facilities that such retention does not confer a competitive advantage and is consistent with public interest.

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown costs resulting from the CPUC actions implementing decision.

SUPPORT

Southern California Edison
Independent Energy Producers
CLECA
CMA

OPPOSITION

None on file.

COMMITTEE ACTION

April 22, 1996 - Passed the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 13-0).

STATUS

Died on the Assembly Floor.

Assembly Bill 2982 (Cortese)

DESCRIPTION

This bill would designate the Department of Community Services and Development to administer the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program Block Grant, and would revise the percentages of these moneys allocated for various purposes. It would permit a reasonable amount to be reserved until March 15 of each program year for the Energy Crisis Intervention Program and would repeal provisions regulating various aspects of this program.

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown.

SUPPORT

Department of Community Service and Development (sponsor)
Association of Southern California Energy Programs
Bay Area Poverty Resource Council
Community Action Agency of San Mateo County, Inc.
Veterans In Community Service, Inc.
The Shannon Group
California Human Development Corporation
La Cooperativa Campesina De California

OPPOSITION

Mariposa County
California/Nevada Community Action Association
El Dorado County
Rural Opportunities Resource Center, Inc.
Merced County
California State Association of Counties
Amador-Tuolumne Community Action Agency
County of Riverside Department of Community Action

COMMITTEE ACTION

April 8, 1996 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 10-0).

STATUS

Died in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

Assembly Bill 3108 (Cortese)

DESCRIPTION

This bill would eliminate the requirement that the forms for specified carriers conform to those prescribed by the Interstate Commerce Commission and instead require that the form of every schedule be prescribed by the commission, the form to provide that all rates shall be set forth on a rate element by rate element basis.

FISCAL EFFECT

New crimes disclaimer.

SUPPORT

None reported to committee.

OPPOSITION

None reported to committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

None.

STATUS

Died in the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee.

AB 3258 (Napolitano)

DESCRIPTION

Recommends a State Trade Office in either Southeast Asia or South Korea.

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown.

SUPPORT

(as introduced)

Chinese American Entrepreneurs Association
Grace Chu, Attorney
Hong Kong Association of Southern California
Doris Nieh Enterprises
Southern California Edison
Consortium For Distance Learning

OPPOSITION

None reported to committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

April 22, 1996 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 10-1).

STATUS

Died in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

Assembly Bill 3264 (Aguiar)

DESCRIPTION

See AB 3153

Deletes the provision in Section 743.1 (b) requiring electrical corporations from reporting to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) regarding the measures or practices they have implemented in an effort to reduce its firm rates to the level of interruptible service rates charged to heavy industrial customers in the state.

2) Deletes the sunset provision of this section.

3) Continues the interruptible service program for all eligible heavy industrial customers until, pursuant to the CPUC's December 20, 1996 Decision, those customers become eligible for direct access.

FISCAL EFFECT

None.

SUPPORT

CLECA

OPPOSITION

None on file.

COMMITTEE ACTION

April 15, 1996 - Passed the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee with a recommendation to Consent (Vote: 11-0).

STATUS

Died in the Senate Energy, Utilities, and Communications Committee.

Assembly Bill 3306 (Brulte)

DESCRIPTION

This bill provides that a public agency and an electrical corporation may provide service to retail customers outside its boundaries provided it submits to the regulatory and ratemaking authority of the entity currently providing such service.

FISCAL EFFECT

No costs to the state.

SUPPORT

PG&E (Sponsor)
Southern California Edison
Coalition of California Utility Employees
Latino Issues Forum
Natural Resources Defense Council
American GI Forum
Calif. Teamsters

OPPOSITION

Independent Energy Producers	Agricultural Energy Consumers Association
Association of CA Water Agencies	Southern Calif. Cities Consortium
CA Municipal Utilities Assoc	City of Alameda
League of California Food Processors	City of Palo Alto
Modesto Irrigation District	Calif. Cogeneration Council
Turlock Irrigation District	City of Anaheim
Destec Power Services	City of Roseville
Northern California Power Agency	City of Azusa
City of Redding	Calif. Farm Bureau Federation
City of Santa Clara	Praxair, Inc.
Calif. Manufacturers Assc	Western States Petroleum Assc

COMMITTEE ACTION

May 6, 1996 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 9-2)..

STATUS

Died in the Senate Energy, Utilities, and Communications Committee.

Assembly Constitutional Amendment 9 (Rainey)

DESCRIPTION

This measure amends the California Constitution to provide that moneys in the State Emergency Telephone Number Account, or its successor, shall not be appropriated by the Legislature or expended for purposes other than those specified in this measure.

FISCAL EFFECT

None.

SUPPORT

American Association of Retired Persons
AT&T
CA Chamber of Commerce
CA Police Chiefs' Association
CA State Association of Counties
CA State Sheriffs' Association
CA Taxpayers' Association
CALNENA, Inc.
City of Los Angeles
City of Martinez Police Department
City of Oakland
Consumers First

County of San Bernardino
Criminal Justice Administrators' Assn.
of San Luis Obispo County
GTE
Howard Jarvis Tax Payers' Association
Madera County Sheriff's Department
Marin County Fire Department
Pacific Bell
Police Services, Atascadero
Sacramento County Sheriff's Department
Yolo County Communications
Emergency Service Agency

OPPOSITION

CA Professional Firefighters

COMMITTEE ACTION

January 12, 1996 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 12-1).

STATUS

Died in the Senate Constitutional Amendments Committee.

DESCRIPTION

This measure specifically provides that to the extent permitted by the United States Constitution, the Legislature may establish diversity goals for minority, women, and disabled veterans in activities and programs undertaken by state or local government and may require that state or local governmental agencies and entities that contract with those agencies meet or make a good faith effort to meet those goals.

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown.

SUPPORT

None reported to Committee.

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

None.

STATUS

Died in the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee.

Assembly Constitutional Amendment 43 (Conroy)

DESCRIPTION

Repeals those sections of Article XII of the California Constitution which establish the California Public Utilities Commission, CPUC. Adds subsection (c) to Section 8 of Article VII to provide that a transportation company is prohibited from granting free passes/discounts to any state officeholder. And that the acceptance of any pass/discount by such person will result in forfeiture of the office. This provision is currently found in Section 7 of Article XII. Adds Section 23 to Article IV granting plenary power to the Legislature to establish the manner and scope of review of commission action in a court of record and to enable the commission to fix just compensation for utility property taken by eminent domain. This provision is currently found in Section 5 of Article XII. Clarifying amendment identifying "the commission" as the CPUC.

FISCAL EFFECT:

None.

SUPPORT

None reported to Committee.

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

April 22, 1996 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 7-1).

STATUS

SUBJECT MATTER OF ACA 43 CHANGED. NO LONGER RELATED TO UTILITIES.

Assembly Concurrent Resolution 63 (Conroy)

DESCRIPTION

Requests that the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) report to the Legislature on California's progress toward a competitive electric service industry by June 1, 1996.

ACR 63, is a second request directing the CPUC to inform the Legislature and the Governor on California's progress toward competition in the electric service industry. The reports should identify possible pitfalls and solutions that can be utilized to facilitate the implementation of electrical restructuring. Moreover, the reports will offer an indication as to where electrical restructuring is today.

FISCAL EFFECT

Minor costs, if any, to the PUC.

SUPPORT

Independent Energy Producers

OPPOSITION

None reported to committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

April 15, 1996 - Adopted by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee with a recommendation to Consent (Vote: 10-0).

STATUS

Died in the Senate Energy, Utilities, and Communications Committee.

Assembly Concurrent Resolution 81 (Burton)

DESCRIPTION

This resolution requests the California Public Utilities Commission to conduct a study on the amount of money that would be required for the state to buy out and take over the operations of investor-owned utilities operating in California and report to the Legislature the results of the study by January 1, 1998.

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown.

SUPPORT

None reported to Committee.

OPPOSITION

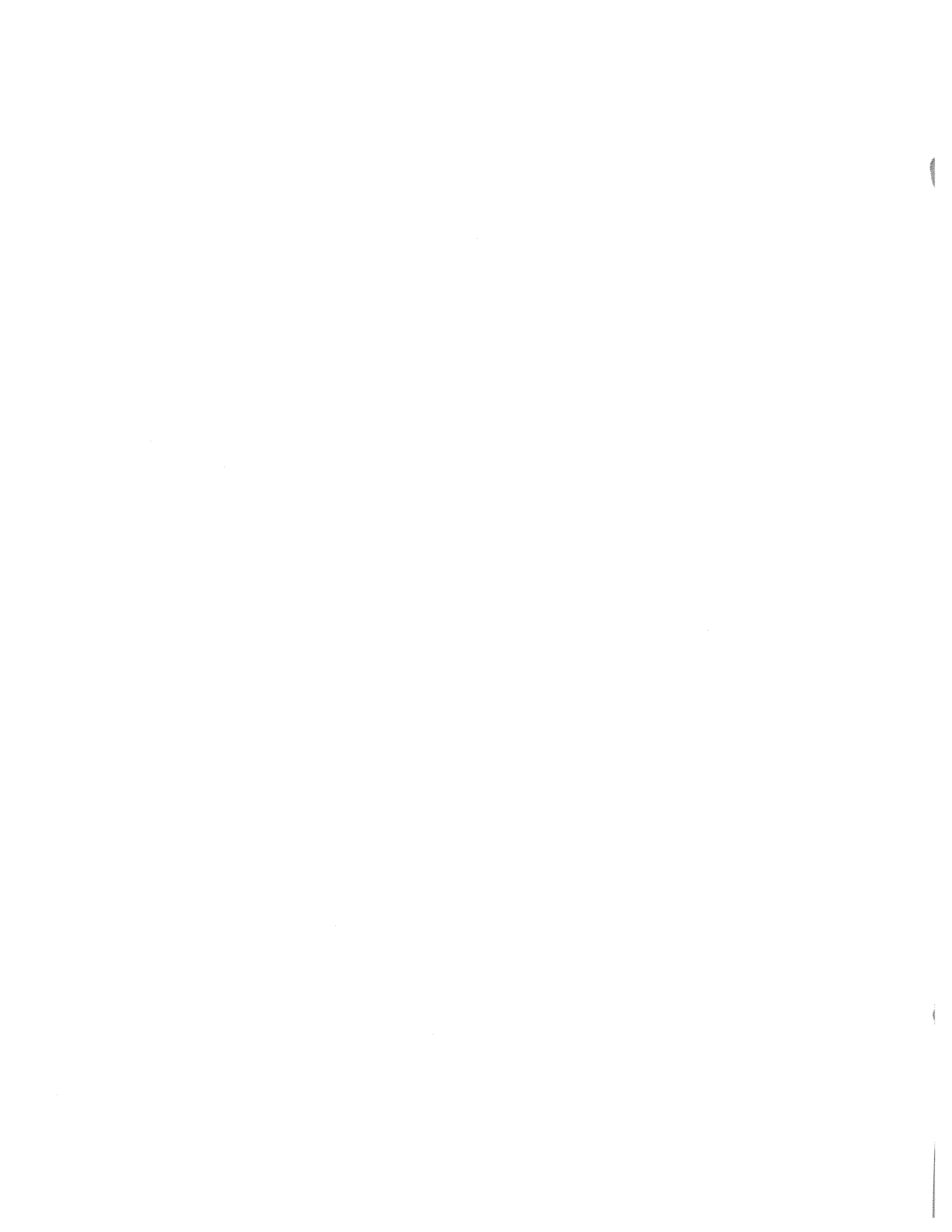
None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

None.

STATUS

Died in the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee.



Senate Bill 25 (Leonard)

DESCRIPTION

Transfers from the California Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to the Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission (CEC) specified program functions and repeals specified affirmative action contract procurement provisions. Requires that the funding for the transferred programs come from the Energy Resources Programs Account (ERPA).

Declares, as a matter of state policy and public interest, that direct access be implemented by January 1, 1998, concurrently with the establishment of an Independent System Operator to be regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and the creation of the Power Exchange.

Declares, as a matter of state policy and public interest, that the competition transition charge (CTC) shall be nonbypassable as to all retail customers and requires the PUC to order the collection of the CTC from all retail customers.

Repeals provisions and requirements regarding women, minority, and disabled veteran business enterprise set forth in Section 8281 of the Public Utilities Code.

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown.

SUPPORT

None received by committee.

OPPOSITION

None received by committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

July 13, 1995 - Amendments passed the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 14-0).

STATUS

Died in the Utilities and Commerce Committee.

Senate Bill 423 (Marks)

DESCRIPTION

This bill extends for one year an existing procedure for establishing pilotage rates by changing the January 1, 1996 sunset date to January 1, 1996. It also adds language clarifying how monies in the Harbor and Watercraft Revolving Fund may be appropriated for dredging small craft harbors, or maintaining breakwaters for small craft harbors.

FISCAL EFFECT

None.

SUPPORT

San Francisco Bar Pilots
Pacific Merchant Shipping Association

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

August 28, 1995 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 16-0).

STATUS

Vetoed by the Governor (10/16/95).

Senate Bill 956 (Leonard)

DESCRIPTION

This bill reorganizes the California Energy Commission and its related governmental functions in what the Governor's office characterizes as "a first step in what [is intended to] be a top-to-bottom review of the State's energy management programs." This bill adopts the four main facets of the Governor's Reorganization Plan #2 of 1996.

FISCAL EFFECT

Annual cost savings to State projected to be approximately \$12 million if the Plan is fully implemented.

SUPPORT

None on file.

OPPOSITION

None on file.

COMMITTEE ACTION

June 17, 1996 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 10-0).

STATUS

Died in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

DESCRIPTION

This bill requires the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to study and report to the Legislature by January 1, 1998 on the effect of the federal preemption of state regulatory authority over wireless telephone services.

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown.

SUPPORT

Cellular Carriers Association of California (Sponsor)

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

None.

STATUS

Died in Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee.

Senate Bill 1138 (Peace)

DESCRIPTION

Declares that the use of state rights-of-way and buildings be sold or leased to the highest bidder and the proceeds of these sales or leases be deposited in the General Fund. Declares that access to public rights-of-way and public spaces is valuable to telecommunications corporations for the deployment of telecommunications equipment. Finds that the state controls some public rights-of-way and public spaces; the value of state-controlled rights-of-way and spaces should be realized for the benefit of the citizens of the state; the value of state-controlled rights-of-way and spaces would be maximized through competitive bidding; the federal government is auctioning off use of the public airwaves to telecommunications corporations, raising billions of dollars for the federal treasury.

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown

SUPPORT

ICG Access Services

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

None.

STATUS

Died in Assembly Transportation Committee.

Senate Bill 1139 (Mountjoy)

DESCRIPTION

Bill states legislative intent with regard to a competitive generation market. This bill is a mixture of policy and principles applicable to the efforts of the Legislature, the CPUC, and the industry to restructure the electrical services industry. Those principles include: (1) requiring that all ratepayers should benefit from restructuring; (2) maintaining services and safety inherent in the current system; (3) preventing cost-shifting; (4) relieving utilities from their obligation to serve; (5) maintenance of public benefit programs; and (6) that all obligations incurred under the present system shall be honored and paid. States the intent of the Legislature with respect to a competitive electric generation market.

This bill would become operative only if SB 1141 is enacted.

FISCAL EFFECT

None.

SUPPORT

Agricultural Energy Consumers Association
CA Large Energy Consumers Association
CA League of Food Processors
CMA
CMUA
CA Utility Employees
Californians for Competitive Electricity
Center for Energy Efficient and Renewable Technologies
EDF
IEP
Industrial Users Association
PG&E
SDG&E
Sierra Club
Edison
TURN
Utility Consumers Action Network

OPPOSITION

None reported to committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

June 5, 1996 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 10-0).

STATUS

Died in the Joint Conference Committee on Electrical Restructuring and PUC Reform.

Senate Bill 1141 (Costa)

DESCRIPTION

This bill articulates the issues which must be addressed by the Legislature, the California Public Utilities Commission, and the industry in the restructuring debate if the principles set forth in SB 1139 are to be accomplished. This bill will only become effective if SB 1139 is signed into law. The issues set forth in this bill include: (1) design of the newly restructured industry; (2) market power and antitrust problems; (3) deregulation of the industry as a whole; (4) transition costs, valuation of stranded assets, amortization periods; (5) transmission and distribution access, independent grid operators; and (6) public policy issues, including cost, payment, and maintenance of such programs.

FISCAL EFFECT

Unknown.

SUPPORT

Agricultural Energy Consumers Association
CA Large Energy Consumers Association
CA League of Food Processors
CMA
CMUA
CA Utility Employees
Center for Energy Efficient and Renewable Technologies
IEP
PG&E
SDG&E
Sierra Club
Edison
TURN
Utility Consumers Action Network

OPPOSITION

None reported to committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

June 5, 1996 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 11-0).

STATUS

Died in the Joint Conference Committee on Electrical Restructuring and PUC Reform.

Senate Bill 1142 (Peace)

DESCRIPTION

Allows California telephone subscribers, after paying a fee of \$5 or less, to place themselves on a "Do-Not-Call" list for all telephone solicitations, removes the current 21 exemptions from the regulation of telephone sellers, and penalizes businesses for calls made to the list. Allows California residential telephone customers to request that they place their telephones on a "Do-Not-Call" list, a Nonsolicitation Register, for purposes of telephone solicitation, telemarketing. Requires the Department of Consumer Affairs to establish the Nonsolicitation Register for those consumers who do not want to receive telephone solicitations.

FISCAL EFFECT

Local crimes disclaimer. A similar proposal, SB 1512 (Calderon) would cost \$818,000, but this bill allows fees not to exceed cost.

SUPPORT

Utility Consumers' Action Network, UCAN

OPPOSITION

(Previous versions)

AT&T

American General Finance

Department of Consumer Affairs

California Cable Television Association

California Newspaper Publishers Association

California Association of Life Underwriters

Direct Marketing Association

Bank of America

Associated Credit Bureaus of California.

Household Finance

Trans Union

COMMITTEE ACTION

June 10, 1996 - Failed passage in the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 3-6).

STATUS

Died in Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee.

Senate Bill 1266 (Kopp)

DESCRIPTION

Adds clarifying language to the responsibilities of the Director of the Department of Information Technology (DOIT). Requires that the Director of DOIT develop plans and policies in a coordinated manner with respect to the project management of state telecommunications and information technology.

FISCAL EFFECT:

Department of Finance states there are no additional costs since DOIT will perform no additional duties.

SUPPORT

None reported to Committee.

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

March 19, 1996 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 9- 0).

STATUS

Vetoed by the Governor (5/3/96).

Senate Bill 1657 (Dills)

DESCRIPTION

This bill requires the California Public Utilities Commission to establish a reasonable participation goal for disabled veteran business enterprises by January 31, 1997, for contracts awarded by any electrical, gas, or telephone company for construction, professional services, material, supplies, equipment, alterations or improvement.

FISCAL EFFECT

None.

SUPPORT

Association for Service Disabled Veterans

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

June 18, 1996 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 10-0)

STATUS

Vetoed by the Governor (9/29/96).

Senate Bill 1801 (Polanco)

DESCRIPTION

Enacts the Small Business Opportunities Act. Requires the Secretary of the Trade and Commerce Agency (TCA to: establish the Small Business Internet Marketing Program; encourage regional alliances of small contractors; deposit funds for the Manufacturing Technology Program (MTP) into the Competitive Technology Account; double joins this bill to AB 2674 (Morrissey).

FISCAL EFFECT:

None known. The Internet Program, funded only if federal, nonprofit, and nonstate resources become available, would have no fiscal effect upon the state. Similarly, the Regional Alliances for Small Contractors are explicitly funded out of existing economic development resources. The 1996-97 Budget directly funds the MTP found in this measure and in AB 2674.

SUPPORT

American Subcontractors Association of California, Inc.
Association of California Surety Companies
California Association for Local Economic Development
California Community Colleges
National Association of Minority Contractors
Sacramento Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
The South Bay AFL-CIO Labor Council

OPPOSITION

None on file.

COMMITTEE ACTION

August 8, 1996 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 10- 0.)

STATUS

Vetoed by the Governor (9/30/96).

Senate Bill 1933 (Mello)

DESCRIPTION

Appropriates \$75,000 from the General Fund (GF) to the Trade and Commerce Agency (TCA), forgoing the competitive bid process, mandates the selection and "seed money" funding of an unspecified private, nonprofit California organization for the purpose of developing and operating a California exhibit at the 1998 Exposition in Lisbon, Portugal around marine environmental themes. Requires that funds not expended revert back to the GF.

FISCAL EFFECT

\$75,000 GF cost.

SUPPORT

None on file.

OPPOSITION

None on file.

COMMITTEE ACTION

June 18, 1996 - Passed the Assembly Utilities and Committee Commerce (Vote: 10-0).

STATUS

Vetoed by the Governor (9/15/96) .

Senate Bill 2143 (Hurt)

DESCRIPTION

Provides that public utilities and other service suppliers shall not be liable for collecting, validating, or refunding taxes imposed by another public entity. A utility is not liable (is held harmless) to any customer for collecting taxes on behalf of a tax imposing local government and it is not responsible for investigating the validity of a tax or assisting in the refunding of an improperly imposed tax. As amended without rereferral to Committee, requires the Public Utilities Commission, PUC, to allow water corporations to use the proceeds from the sale of unnecessary assets prior to January 1, 1996, to reinvest in water infrastructure within an eight year period.

FISCAL EFFECT:

Unknown, probably minor costs to local governments to provide notices and information.

SUPPORT (Without subsequent water provisions)

Cal-Tax (sponsor)

Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA)

AT&T

Airtouch Communications

California Association of Long Distance Telephone Companies (CALTEL)

California State Association of Counties

Cellular Carriers Association of California

Pacific Telesis Group

San Diego Gas & Electric Company

Southern California Edison Company

Southern California Gas Company

Sprint Communications

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

June 25, 1996 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 13-0).

STATUS

Died in Senate Local Government.

Senate Constitutional Amendment 21 (Peace)

DESCRIPTION

Bill is intended as a vehicle for the Joint Conference Committee on Reform of the California Public Utilities Commission, PUC. Identical to ACA 43 (Conroy) as it passed this house. Repeals those sections of Article XII, of the California Constitution, which established the California Public Utilities Commission, its membership and terms. Retains provisions dealing with prohibition of free rail passes and plenary powers of the Legislature over the PUC.

FISCAL EFFECT

None.

SUPPORT

None reported to Committee.

OPPOSITION

None reported to Committee.

COMMITTEE ACTION

June 5, 1996 - Passed by the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee (Vote: 9-1).

STATUS

Died in the Joint Conference Committee on Reforming the California Public Utilities Commission.

Senate Joint Resolution 44 (Mello)

DESCRIPTION

1998 Exposition in Lisbon, Portugal: state participation. Extends the Legislatures support for the 1998 World Exposition in Lisbon, makes declarations about ocean environment and the international management of the oceans, and urges the participation of California. Specifically, this bill extends the Legislatures support for the 1998 World Exposition in Lisbon, "The Oceans, A Heritage for the Future." Declares that the state's businesses, non-profit and public agencies have helped "to educate the world regarding the dependence of human life on the existence of healthy and productive marine environment." Proclaims the "threat of rapid destruction of the ocean's formidable life potential."

FISCAL EFFECT

\$75,000 from the General Fund to finance activities of a non-profit organization in companion measure, SB 1933 (Mello).

SUPPORT

Allen Goldstein

OPPOSITION

None on file.

COMMITTEE ACTION

None.

STATUS

Died in the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee.