

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE BILL ANALYSIS

AMENDMENT DATE: July 1, 2011
POSITION: Oppose

BILL NUMBER: AB 146
AUTHOR: R. Dickinson
RELATED BILLS: AB 135

BILL SUMMARY: State Air Resources Control Board: Membership

Existing law establishes an 11-member Air Resources Board (Air Board), having specified qualifications, within the California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA). The Air Board is responsible for controlling emissions from mobile and stationary sources and enforcing federal air pollution regulations.

This bill would add two members to the Air Board, one a member with experience in climate change and reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and the other a member from a district within the Sacramento federal nonattainment area for ozone. Both this bill and AB 135 contain provisions such that if both bills are chaptered and become effective January 1, 2012, the provisions of both bills related to board member composition and number (i.e. business member until 2017, and two additional members with specified qualifications) would apply.

FISCAL SUMMARY

The Air Board estimates an annual cost of \$36,000 Air Pollution Control Fund (APCF) for expenses of the new board member with climate change expertise. The Department of Finance (Finance) assumes this cost would be minor and absorbable. The Air Board may incur minor absorbable costs to provide administrative support to the two added members. The second member, from a district within the Sacramento federal nonattainment area for ozone district, would be funded by that district. A member representing a specific district is reimbursed by the local district, which has authority to charge fees to cover these expenses.

COMMENTS

Finance is opposed to the bill as it would unnecessarily grow government and provide little or no increased air quality perspective beyond the existing governing board. Furthermore, under current membership requirements, the Governor already has the ability to appoint a climate change expert, as well as a Sacramento regional representative, to the Air Board. The bill could spur other special interests and districts to demand representation on the Air Board. Adding additional members to the Air Board could result in challenges in reaching a consensus and cause policy implementation delays.

Under existing law, the Air Board consists of 11 members having specified experience and expertise appointed by the Governor and subject to confirmation by the Senate. With the exception of the chair, all members are part-time positions. Two members are public members and four are experts in fields such as medicine, chemistry, physics, meteorology, engineering, business, and law. Five others, most of whom are local elected officials, also serve as representatives of their regional air pollution control agencies as part of their duties; one each from the regions of Los Angeles, the San Francisco Bay area, San Diego, the San Joaquin Valley, and another representing any of the remaining districts in the State.

(Continued)

Analyst/Principal Date Program Budget Manager Date
(0623) J. McGuinn Karen Finn

Department Deputy Director Date

Governor's Office: By: Date: Position Approved
Position Disapproved

BILL ANALYSIS Form DF-43 (Rev 03/95 Buff)

AUTHOR

AMENDMENT DATE

BILL NUMBER

R. Dickinson

July 1, 2011

AB 146

COMMENTS- Continued

This bill would add one member to the Air Board with training and experience in climate change and the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and one member from a district within the Sacramento federal nonattainment area for ozone in either the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District, the Placer County Air Pollution Control District, the Yolo-Solano Air Quality Management District, the Feather River Air Quality Management District, or the El Dorado County Air Pollution Control District. .

Code/Department Agency or Revenue Type	(Fiscal Impact by Fiscal Year)								Fund Code
	SO	LA	PROP			FC			
	CO	RV	98	FC	2011-2012	FC	2012-2013	FC	2013-2014
3900/Air Res Bd	SO	No			----- No/Minor Fiscal Impact -----				0115
<u>Fund Code</u>	<u>Title</u>								
0115	Air Pollution Control Fund								