

SENATE BILL SB-17

Introduced by Senator Josh Becker (D-13)

An act relating to Clean Grid and Community Energy Resilience Act.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB-17, Josh Becker (D-13). Clean Grid and Community Energy Resilience Act.

Existing state programs support California's transition toward cleaner energy and improvements to the state's electric grid. However, increased electricity demand from transportation, businesses, technology, and other industries creates additional challenges for electricity reliability.

This bill would establish the Clean Grid and Community Energy Resilience Grant Program within the California Energy Commission. The bill would appropriate \$40,000,000 from the General Fund for grants supporting clean energy generation, battery storage, energy efficiency, and community energy resilience projects.

The bill would require the California Energy Commission to prioritize projects that improve electricity reliability, reduce electricity costs, benefit public-serving facilities, or create workforce opportunities in clean-energy industries.

Vote: 2/3rds. **Appropriations/fiscal:** yes. **Local program:** no.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1.

The Clean Grid and Community Energy Resilience Grant Program is hereby established within the California Energy Commission.

SEC. 2.

(a) The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

- (1) California's transition to clean energy requires continued investment in electricity infrastructure.
 - (2) Growing electricity demand from transportation, technology, and businesses creates additional challenges for the state's electric grid.
 - (3) Battery storage, energy efficiency, and local clean energy generation can improve electricity reliability.
 - (4) Investments in clean-energy infrastructure can create economic and workforce-development opportunities.
- (b) The California Energy Commission shall administer the grant program established by this act.

SEC. 3.

(a) The commission shall provide competitive grants for projects that include one or more of the following:

- (1) Solar energy generation.
- (2) Battery energy storage.
- (3) Energy-efficiency improvements.
- (4) Microgrids serving critical community facilities.
- (5) Technologies that reduce electricity demand during periods of peak demand.

(b) Priority shall be given to projects that do one or more of the following:

- (1) Reduce electricity costs.
- (2) Improve electricity reliability during extreme weather events.
- (3) Serve schools, community colleges, healthcare facilities, affordable housing, or public transportation facilities.
- (4) Create or support jobs in clean-energy industries.
- (5) Support energy-efficiency improvements for small businesses and other eligible businesses.

SEC. 4.

(a) The sum of \$40,000,000 is hereby appropriated from the General Fund to the California Energy Commission for purposes of this act.

(b) No less than 50 percent of the funds shall be awarded to projects that directly benefit low- or moderate-income communities or public-serving facilities.

SEC. 5.

The California Energy Commission shall publish an annual report describing the projects receiving funding, the amount of funding provided, estimated energy savings, and estimated improvements to electric grid reliability.

SEC. 6.

This act shall become operative on January 1, 2027.