

LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

[Environment Code – Greenhouse Gas Information Labels for Gas Pumps]

Ordinance amending the Environment Code to require service station operators to place labels on gas pumps advising the public of the amount of carbon dioxide generated by burning a gallon of fuel; and making environmental findings.

Existing Law

Existing City law does not specifically provide for posting of information labels regarding carbon emissions or climate change at service stations.

Amendments to Current Law

The proposal is an ordinance that would amend the Environment Code to require service station operators to place labels on gas pumps advising the public of the amount of carbon dioxide generated by burning a gallon of fuel. The label would say:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has determined that a typical passenger vehicle burning one gallon of fuel produces on average almost 20 pounds of tailpipe carbon dioxide (CO₂), which the EPA has determined is the primary greenhouse gas that is contributing to recent climate change. This is a message from the City and County of San Francisco. To learn about San Francisco's efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, go to www.sfclimate.org.

The label would be attached to the hose(s) or to the top of the nozzle(s) for each pump.

The proposal would authorize the Director of the Department of the Environment to adopt regulations to implement the ordinance, including regulations specifying the size, format, and related standards for the labels. The Director could impose administrative fines for violations of the ordinance or implementing regulations ranging from \$100 for a first violation up to \$500 for a third or subsequent violation occurring within one year.

The requirement would take effect on March 1, 2015.

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