

LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

[Environment Code - Existing Buildings Energy Performance and Benchmarking]

Ordinance amending the Environment Code to require owners of certain nonresidential and residential buildings to annually measure and disclose energy performance; to require the Department of the Environment to collect and make public summary statistics about the energy performance of such buildings; and affirming the Planning Department's determination under the California Environmental Quality Act.

Existing Law

Environment Code Chapter 20 requires owners of certain commercial buildings to conduct energy efficiency audits of their properties and file annual energy benchmark summaries for their buildings with the Department of Environment. It also requires the Department of Environment to gather and make available to the public summary statistics about the energy performance of these buildings.

In 2015, the California Legislature passed Assembly Bill 802, which requires statewide mandatory benchmarking and public disclosure for large commercial buildings as well as multifamily residential buildings.

Amendments to Current Law

This ordinance expands Chapter 20 of the Environment Code to require large multifamily residential buildings and certain commercial buildings to measure and disclose energy performance data to the Department of Environment and for such data to be made publicly available. The required reporting will either meet or exceed State law requirements and obviate the need for building owners to report directly to State authorities.