

Date of Hearing: July 8, 2019

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON BUDGET

Philip Y. Ting, Chair

SB 111 (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review) – As Amended July 5, 2019

**SENATE VOTE:** 27-9

**SUBJECT:** Budget Act of 2019

**SUMMARY:** This is the trailer bill on energy infrastructure safety. Specifically, **this bill:**

- 1) Creates the California Catastrophe Response Council, composed of nine members, to oversee the California Earthquake Authority and the Wildfire Fund Administrator.
- 2) Requires the California Catastrophe Response Council to appoint the Wildfire Fund Administrator and oversee the administrator's operations, management, and administration of the Wildfire Fund.
- 3) Specifies that the California Earthquake Authority shall exercise the powers of the administrator until an administrator is appointed.
- 4) Creates the Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety within the Natural Resources Agency.
- 5) Specifies the annual salary of the Director of the Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety.
- 6) Specifies that the Office of Energy Infrastructure and Safety, effective July 1, 2021, is the successor to and is vested with all of the duties, powers, and responsibilities of the Wildfire Safety Division, including but not limited to, the power to compel information and conduct investigations.
- 7) Specifies that the Public Utilities Commission and the Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety shall enter into a memorandum of understanding to develop consistent approaches and share data related to electric infrastructure safety.
- 8) Establishes the California Wildfire Safety Advisory Board.
- 9) Appropriates \$47,600,000 from the Public Utilities Commission Utilities Reimbursement Account and \$2,500,000 from the Public Utilities Commission Public Advocate's Office Account to the Public Utilities Commission for the purposes of fulfilling its duties in this bill.
- 10) Makes a number of declarations and findings.

**COMMENTS:**

This bill creates the California Catastrophe Response Council and the Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety to ensure energy infrastructure safety in California.

**REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:** None on file.

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