

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 371

Introduced by Assembly Member Huffman

February 14, 2007

An act to add Section 15459.10 to the Government Code, relating to health facility financing, and making an appropriation therefor.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 371, as introduced, Huffman. Health facilities.

Existing law regulates the operation of health facilities, including hospitals. The existing California Health Facilities Financing Authority Act empowers the California Health Facilities Financing Authority to make loans from the continuously appropriated California Health Facilities Financing Authority Fund to nonprofit corporations or associations for financing or refinancing the acquisition, construction, or remodeling of health facilities.

Existing law, the California Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1973, establishes certain safety and other responsibilities of employers and employees, including, but not limited to, the requirement that no employer shall fail or neglect to provide safety devices or safeguards reasonably necessary to render the employment safe. This law also requires each employer to establish, implement, and maintain an effective injury prevention program, as prescribed.

This bill would require every general acute care hospital that applies to the authority for financing from the issuance of tax-exempt bonds to provide the authority with a copy of the hospital's injury and illness prevention program established, implemented, and maintained pursuant to the California Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1973 or through a collective bargaining agreement. The copy of the program shall specify

how the general acute care hospital plans to implement or has implemented the program with a specified zero lift component. Except as specified, the bill would require at least 1% of the amount of bond financing or \$100,000, whichever amount is greater, to be allocated for the planning, purchase, construction, and installation of equipment to implement the zero lift component.

Because the bill would expand the purposes for which a continuously appropriated fund may be used, it would result in an appropriation.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: yes. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 15459.10 is added to the Government
2 Code, to read:

3 15459.10. (a) Every general acute care hospital, as defined in
4 subdivision (a) of Section 1250 of the Health and Safety Code,
5 that applies to the authority for financing from the issuance of
6 tax-exempt bonds shall provide the authority with a copy of the
7 hospital’s injury and illness prevention program established,
8 implemented, and maintained pursuant to Section 6401.7 of the
9 Labor Code or through a collective bargaining agreement that
10 specifies how the general acute care hospital has implemented or
11 plans to implement a hospital patient and health care worker injury
12 prevention program. This program shall include a zero lift
13 component that substitutes the manual lifting and transferring of
14 patients with powered patient transfer devices, lifting devices, or
15 lift teams.

16 (b) If an acute care hospital does not have a hospital patient and
17 health care worker injury prevention program described in
18 subdivision (a), at least 1 percent of the amount of bond financing
19 or one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000), whichever amount
20 is greater, shall be allocated for the planning, purchase,
21 construction, and installation of equipment to implement the zero
22 lift component described in subdivision (a), unless the authority
23 authorizes, on the basis of the size of the hospital or the hospital’s
24 existing inventory of equipment for this purpose, a lesser amount.

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