OLR Bill Analysis

SB 931

AN ACT CONCERNING EMISSIONS STANDARDS FOR MEDIUM AND HEAVY DUTY VEHICLES.

SUMMARY

This bill requires the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection commissioner, by December 31, 2021, to assess the energy, environmental, and air quality impacts of adopting California's medium- and heavy-duty vehicle standards in Connecticut.

If the commissioner determines that adopting the California standards is necessary to meet federal air quality standards or state greenhouse gas reduction requirements, she may adopt regulations to implement the standards here. If she adopts these regulations, she must amend them whenever the California standards change. The regulations may incorporate by reference the California Air Resources Board's (CARB) adopted regulations.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2021

BACKGROUND

California Standards

CARB adopted (1) a heavy-duty omnibus rule, which creates new emission standards for engine manufacturers beginning in 2024, and (2) an advanced clean trucks rule, which requires truck manufacturers to deliver for sale a certain percentage of advanced technology vehicles.

Connecticut MOU Signatory

In July 2020, Connecticut signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with 15 other states and the District of Columbia to work together to reduce emissions from medium- and heavy-duty vehicles. The signatories' goal is to have all medium- and heavy-duty vehicle

sales be advanced technology zero emission vehicles (ZEV) by 2050, with an interim goal of 30% ZEV sales by 2030.

Medium- and Heavy-duty Vehicles

The U.S. Department of Transportation categorizes vehicles based on gross vehicle weight ratings (GVWR). Medium-duty vehicles generally have a GVWR of between 10,000 and 26,000 pounds (e.g., box trucks, firetrucks, and school buses). Heavy-duty vehicles have a GVWR of more than 26,000 pounds (e.g., city transit buses, mobile cranes, cement mixers, refuse trucks, and tractor trailers).

COMMITTEE ACTION

Environment Committee

Joint Favorable
Yea   22   Nay   10   (03/12/2021)