

Date of Hearing: April 10, 2019

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Lorena Gonzalez, Chair

AB 805 (Obernolte) – As Amended April 2, 2019

Policy Committee: Accountability and Administrative Review Vote: 7 - 0

Urgency: No State Mandated Local Program: No Reimbursable: No

SUMMARY:

This bill requires a state agency to post on its website any report the state agency submits to a committee of the Legislature. This bill defines “report” to include a study or audit or any report identified in the Legislative Analyst’s supplemental report of the budget act.

FISCAL EFFECT:

Minor costs to state agencies to post additional documents to their websites.

COMMENTS:

- 1) **Purpose and Background.** This bill is meant to increase transparency. A state agency that currently submits a report that is required or requested by law to the Legislature must also post the report on its website. This bill extends the posting requirement to reports submitted to a committee of the Legislature.

For purposes of the posting requirement in this bill, this bill defines a report more broadly than does existing law by including “any” report a state agency submits to a committee, not just those reports required by law to be submitted.

While the number of reports submitted to committees is unknown, it appears as though many agencies already post many audits and studies on their websites.

- 2) **Prior Legislation.** AB 410 (Obernolte), of the 2015-16 Legislative Session, was similar to this bill, but included budget change proposals (BCPs) in the definition of “report.” AB 410 was vetoed by the governor who stated existing law already requires departments to post reports mandated by the Legislature or the law online and the Department of Finance was in the process of posting BCPs on its website.

AB 805 addresses these concerns by excluding BCPs and clarifying the definition of a report.

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