

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 20, 2021

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2021–22 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 475

Introduced by Assembly Member Muratsuchi
(Principal coauthor: Senator Hertzberg)
(*Coauthors: Assembly Members Holden, Irwin, and Wicks*)

February 8, 2021

An act to add Section 13996.45 to the Government Code, relating to economic development.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 475, as amended, Muratsuchi. ~~GO-BIZ: GO-Biz:~~ trade and investment-office: *desk*: Japan.

The Economic Revitalization Act establishes the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development, also known as "GO-Biz," to, among other duties, serve the Governor as the lead entity for economic strategy and the marketing of California on issues relating to business development, private sector investment, and economic growth. Existing law requires the director of GO-Biz to develop an International Trade and Investment Program for the state and authorizes the director to establish and terminate international trade and investment offices outside of the United States as the director determines is appropriate, if specific requirements are met.

This bill, no later than January 1, 2024, upon appropriation of sufficient funds for this purpose, would require GO-Biz to establish under its jurisdiction an international trade and investment-office *desk* in Tokyo, Japan, and makes related findings and declarations. The bill would require the trade and investment-office *desk* to have those powers and duties prescribed by the director to promote and facilitate the state's

international trade activities and would require the trade and investment office desk to, among other things, promote the export of California goods and services into Japan. The bill would also authorize GO-Biz to contract with the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) to provide office and meeting space, as specified.

Existing law requires the director of GO-Biz to prepare and submit an annual budget and strategy and business plan for the International Trade and Investment Program that includes, among other things, a separately stated budget for each international trade and investment office. Existing law requires that budget and strategy and business plan to be submitted to specified legislative committees.

This bill would require the director of GO-Biz to include information regarding the Japan trade and investment office desk in that budget and strategy and business plan for the International Trade and Investment Program.

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

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

- 1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the
- 2 following:
- 3 (a) California continues to be one of the top exporting states to
- 4 Japan, accounting for over ~~17~~ 10.9 percent of total ~~United~~ *United*
- 5 ~~States exports.~~ *exports in 2020.*
- 6 (b) Japan has remained California’s fourth largest export market
- 7 since 2010.
- 8 (c) California exports to Japan totaled ~~—\$13,000,000,000~~
- 9 *\$10,600,000,000 in 2018.* *2020.*
- 10 (d) Japan ranks first in all aspects of direct foreign investments
- 11 to southern California.
- 12 (e) California is currently the top importing state in the United
- 13 States for products from Japan. In addition, California buys more
- 14 products from Japan than any foreign country besides China and
- 15 Mexico.
- 16 (f) *California and Japan signed in 2014, and concurred to renew*
- 17 *in 2016, a memorandum of cooperation to coordinate efforts on,*
- 18 *among other things, climate change, zero-emission vehicles, and*
- 19 *trade and investment.*

1 SEC. 2. Section 13996.45 is added to the Government Code,
2 to read:

3 13996.45. (a) No later than January 1, 2024, upon
4 appropriation of sufficient funds for this purpose, the Governor's
5 Office of Business and Economic Development shall establish
6 under its jurisdiction an international trade and investment-office
7 *desk* in Tokyo, Japan. The trade and investment-office *desk* shall
8 have those powers and duties prescribed by the director to promote
9 and facilitate the state's international trade activities.

10 (b) The Japan trade and investment-office *desk* established
11 pursuant to this section shall do all of the following:

12 (1) Facilitate access to educational exchange programs between
13 California and Japan.

14 (2) Promote the export of California goods and services into
15 Japan.

16 (3) Encourage and facilitate capital investment from Japan into
17 California.

18 (c) The Governor's Office of Business and Economic
19 Development may contract with the Japan External Trade
20 Organization (JETRO), consistent with subdivision (f) of Section
21 13996.41, to provide office and meeting space for the Japan trade
22 and investment-office *desk* to reduce costs to the state.

23 (d) The director shall include information regarding the Japan
24 trade and investment-office *desk* in the reports prepared and
25 transmitted pursuant to Section 13996.65.