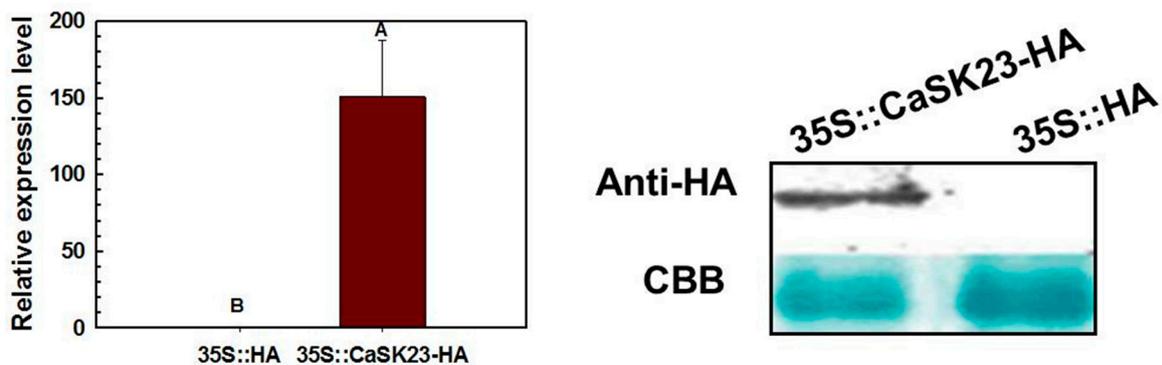


**Figure S1.** (a) Comparison of amino acid sequences of CaSK23 with *Homo sapiens* GSK3 $\beta$  (HsGSK3 $\beta$ , NP\_001139628) and *Arabidopsis thaliana* BIN2 (AtBIN2, At4G18710) with DNAMAN5.0. The kinase domain is highlighted in yellow, and the conserved tyrosine (Y265 in CaGSK23) whose phosphorylation is required for kinase activity is highlighted in green. The conserved phosphate-binding residues (R144, R229, and K254 in CaSK23) that interact with prime-phosphorylated substrates are highlighted in red. The conserved TREE domain is in cyan. The figure was made based on the figure of Saidi et al [54]. (b) Phylogenetic tree analysis was made by DNAMAN5.0 with amino acid sequences of CaSK23 and its homologues in *Arabidopsis* including At5G26751 (AtSK11), At3G05840 (AtSK12), At5G14640 (AtSK13), At4G18710 (AtSK21/AtBIN2), At1G06390 (AtSK22), and At2G30980 (AtSK23).



**Figure S2.** Expression of *CaSK23-HA* in pepper leaves via agroinfiltration. a. The transcript levels of *CaSK23* in agro-infiltrated pepper leaves with GV3101 cells containing *35S::CaSK23-HA* or *35S::HA* by qRT-PCR with a specific primer pair of *CaSK23* at 24hpi. Data represent the means  $\pm$  SD obtained from five independent experiments. Different

letters above the bars indicate significant differences among means ( $p < 0.01$ ), determined by Fisher's protected LSD test. b. The expression of *CaSK23* in agro-infiltrated pepper leaves with GV3101 cells containing 35S:: *CaSK23-HA* by western blotting, and the total proteins of *CaSK23-HA* transiently overexpressing pepper leaves were isolated at 24 hpi and were immunoblotted with antibodies of HA.

**Table S1.** Primers for PCR and qRT-PCR used in this study.

Gene	Accession No.	Forward primers (5'→3')	Reverse primers(5'→3')
<b>*Primers used for construction of over-expression &amp; subcellular localization vectors</b>			
<i>CaSK23</i>		AAAAAGCAGGCTACATGGCTTCTA TACCCATTGGT	AGAAAGCTGGGTCCTACACTTGTG TTGCACCGG
<b>*Primers used for construction of VIGS vector</b>			
<i>CaSK23</i>		AAAAAGCAGGCTACCAGAAAAT ATAGGGAGTCCTTG	AGAAAGCTGGGTCCATAAGTAGA CAGGATTACAC
<b>*Primers used for qRT-PCR analyses in pepper plants</b>			
<i>CaSK23</i>		TGGCAGAGCGAGTTGTCGGTAC	TGAGCGGCATCCTTTGATTGA
<i>CaPR1</i>	AF053343	GCCGTGAAGATGTGGGTCAATGA	TGAGTTACGCCAGACTACCTGAGT A
<i>CaSAR82A</i>	AF313766	CCATAGAGGT TCATATGGAA GTCC	GGAAAGTGAA TAGGACCTTT
<i>CaPIN2</i>	AAB94771	GCAACTATTACAGCGTCATCGG	GGGTCAGACTCTCCTTCACAAA
<i>CaACC Oxidase</i>	AB434925	CCATTGTGGTCAACCTTGGC	GCATCGCTTCCTGGATTGTAA
<i>CaActin</i>	AY572427	AGGGATGGGTCAAAGGATGC	GAGACAACACCGCCTGAATAGC
<b>*Primers used for qRT-PCR analyses in tobacco plants</b>			
<i>NtNPR1</i>	U76707	GGCGAGGAGTCCGTTCTTTAA	TCAACCAGGAATGCCACAGC
<i>NtPR2</i>	M60460	TGATGCCCTTTTGGATTCTATG	AGTTCCTGCCCGCTTT
<i>NtPR1b</i>	X66942	AACCCATCCATACTATTCTTG	GCCGCTAACCTATTGTCCC
<i>NtEFE26</i>	Z29529	CGGACGCTGGTGGCATAAT	CAACAAGAGCTGGTGCTGGATA
<i>NtEF1a</i>	D63396	TGCTGCTGTAACAAGATGGATGC	GAGATGGGGACAAAGGGGATT

\* The utilizations of the primers were listed in the lines with gray background.