

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 25, 2006

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 20, 2006

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2005–06 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1940

Introduced by Assembly Member Koretz

February 1, 2006

An act to add Section 30237 to the Public Resources Code, relating to the environment.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1940, as amended, Koretz. Environment: marine debris.

Existing law, the California Coastal Act of 1976, provides for the maintenance, enhancement, or restoration of the marine environment, where feasible.

This bill would require the State Coastal Commission, to the extent feasible and within its existing resources—~~to~~: (1) *to* convene a multiagency task force, consisting of specified representatives from the Department of Conservation, the State Water Resources Control Board, the California Integrated Waste Management Board, the Department of Boating and Waterways, the State Coastal Conservancy, and the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission, for the purpose of implementing a statewide marine debris reduction effort; and (2) to undertake certain ~~action~~ *actions*, as specified. The bill would also make various legislative findings regarding marine debris.

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 that the
2 increasing problem of marine debris is harmful to the marine
3 resources, particularly sensitive species that ingest or become
4 entangled in floating debris. The Legislature further finds that a
5 coordinated effort among state agencies is necessary to create a
6 comprehensive response to reduce the harmful effects of marine
7 debris.

8 SEC. 2. Section 30237 is added to the Public Resources
9 Code, to read:

10 30237. The commission shall, to the extent feasible and
11 within its existing resources, take actions it deems appropriate to
12 address the issue of marine debris, including, but not limited to,
13 all of the following:

14 (a) Increase public awareness of the issue of marine debris
15 through public outreach and education.

16 (b) Improve coordination and collaboration among public
17 agencies, including local governments, to reduce marine debris.

18 (c) (1) Convene a multiagency task force for the purpose of
19 implementing a statewide marine debris reduction effort.
20 Representatives on the task force shall include the Director of
21 Conservation; a member of, or the Executive Director of, the
22 State Water Resources Control Board as determined by that
23 board; a member of, or the Executive Director of, the California
24 Integrated Waste Management Board, as determined by that
25 board; the Director of Boating and Waterways; a member of, or
26 the Executive Officer of, the State Coastal Conservancy, as
27 determined by the conservancy; and a member of, or the
28 Executive Director of, the San Francisco Bay Conservation and
29 Development Commission, as determined by that commission.

30 ~~(2) Members of the task force shall not receive per diem~~
31 ~~expenses for task force related activities.~~

32 ~~(3) Members of the task force may be reimbursed for travel~~
33 ~~expenses for task force related activities pursuant to state policy~~
34 ~~and the policy of each member's agency.~~

35 ~~(4)~~

36 (2) Commencing in 2008, the task force shall submit a
37 semiannual written report to the Ocean Protection Council,
38 summarizing all of the progress made by public agencies and

1 organizations in addressing marine debris, and suggested actions
2 to improve state efforts. The report's findings and
3 recommendations shall be presented to the Ocean Protection
4 Council as part of a noticed public meeting of the council.

5 (d) Seek funding from public and nongovernmental sources to
6 support actions that further the purpose of this section to reduce
7 the introduction of debris into the marine environment.

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