

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 319**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Nava**

February 13, 2007

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An act to add Article 4.7 (commencing with Section 8584.2) to Chapter 7 of Division 1 of Title 2 of the Government Code, relating to emergency services.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 319, as introduced, Nava. Emergencies: tsunami hazard mitigation and preparedness.

Existing law provides that the Director of the Office of Emergency Services is responsible for coordinating the emergency activities of all state agencies in connection with a state of emergency.

This bill would enact the Tsunami Hazard Mitigation and Preparedness Act of 2007, to establish the California Tsunami Steering Committee to guide tsunami hazard preparation activities in the state, as specified. It would require the Office of Emergency Services to establish a statewide tsunami hazard mitigation program to maintain consistent planning efforts regarding preparation, communication, response, and mitigation in the event of a tsunami.

By requiring coastal counties to participate in the California Tsunami Steering Committee and requiring local coastal jurisdictions to develop tsunami evacuation routes and maps, this bill would impose a state-mandated program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to these statutory provisions.

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

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

1 SECTION 1. Article 4.7 (commencing with Section 8584.2)  
 2 is added to Chapter 7 of Division 1 of Title 2 of the Government  
 3 Code, to read:

4  
 5 Article 4.7. Tsunami Hazard Mitigation and Preparedness Act  
 6 of 2007  
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8 8584.2. This article shall be known and may be cited as the  
 9 Tsunami Hazard Mitigation and Preparedness Act of 2007.

10 8584.3. The California Tsunami Steering Committee is hereby  
 11 established in state government to guide tsunami hazard preparation  
 12 activities in the state, including the statewide tsunami hazard  
 13 mitigation program, and to set priorities for use of federal funding.  
 14 The steering committee shall be composed of representatives of  
 15 the following entities:

- 16 (a) The Office of Emergency Services.
- 17 (b) The California Geological Survey.
- 18 (c) The Seismic Safety Commission.
- 19 (d) The Department of Transportation.
- 20 (e) The California Coastal Commission.
- 21 (f) The Department of Parks and Recreation.
- 22 (g) The 15 coastal counties of Del Norte, Humboldt, Los  
 23 Angeles, Marin, Mendocino, Monterey, Orange, San Diego, San  
 24 Francisco, San Luis Obispo, San Mateo, Santa Barbara, Santa  
 25 Cruz, Sonoma, and Ventura.

26 (h) One port district affected by a possible tsunami hazard.

27 8584.4. (a) The Office of Emergency Services shall establish  
 28 a statewide tsunami hazard mitigation and preparedness program  
 29 to maintain consistent planning efforts regarding preparation,  
 30 communication, response, and mitigation in the event of a tsunami.  
 31 The office shall pursue the necessary funding to carry out this

1 article through the normal budget process, from federal funding,  
2 or from private funding sources.

3 (b) The statewide tsunami hazard mitigation and preparedness  
4 program responsibilities shall include, but not be limited to, the  
5 following:

6 (1) Taking inventory of, assessing, and coordinating existing  
7 tsunami hazard mitigation and preparedness programs.

8 (2) Working with local jurisdictions to incorporate tsunami  
9 hazard mitigation planning into local all-hazard mitigation planning  
10 and risk abatement efforts.

11 (3) Defining gaps in preparation, communication, interagency  
12 planning and cooperation, response plans, and mitigation programs  
13 at the state and local levels.

14 (4) Determining appropriate Office of Emergency Services or  
15 Tsunami Steering Committee oversight of city and county tsunami  
16 plan working groups.

17 (5) Updating the Office of Emergency Services’ “Local Planning  
18 Guidance on Tsunami Response” document as needed.

19 (6) Defining accountability mechanisms to ensure local plans  
20 are drafted to comply with the Office of Emergency Services’  
21 “Local Planning Guidance on Tsunami Response” document.

22 (7) Providing the following tsunami hazard preparation  
23 measures:

24 (A) Providing tsunami inundation mapping for all coastal  
25 counties.

26 (B) Taking inventory of, and distributing, tsunami inundation  
27 mapping for all coastal counties.

28 (C) Taking inventory of tsunami hazard signage for coastal  
29 areas within inundation zones.

30 (D) Mandating local coastal jurisdictions to develop tsunami  
31 evacuation routes and maps. These maps should be included in  
32 all-hazard or hazard specific public awareness campaigns.

33 (E) Clarifying the chain of command for local or state-ordered  
34 evacuations.

35 (F) Identifying special needs populations for coastal counties  
36 and addressing evacuation procedures for these communities and  
37 individuals. These populations should include all of the following:

38 (i) Disabled individuals.

39 (ii) Limited English proficiency populations.

40 (iii) Elderly residents.

- 1 (iv) Hospital patients.
- 2 (G) Providing for evacuation site signage.
- 3 (H) Improving public education and awareness programs by
- 4 performing necessary actions, including, but not limited to, the
- 5 following:
  - 6 (i) Identifying target populations.
  - 7 (ii) Incorporating tsunami education into earthquake education
  - 8 programs in coastal communities.
  - 9 (iii) Incorporating tsunami education into disaster education
  - 10 curricula and programs for all schools.
  - 11 (iv) Providing multilingual written materials for coastal counties
  - 12 with a substantial number of non-English-speaking people, as
  - 13 defined in Section 7296.2.
  - 14 (v) Creating Internet resources for individuals to access
  - 15 information about tsunami preparedness.
- 16 (I) Producing training and workshops to educate local emergency
- 17 managers and first responder entities on application of tsunami
- 18 specific response plans and evacuation plans.
- 19 (8) Assessing federal and state procedures and equipment for
- 20 tsunami warning systems and warning cancellations.
- 21 (9) Investigating and making recommendations on how to alert
- 22 local agencies more efficiently on tsunami advisories, warnings,
- 23 and warning cancellations.
- 24 (10) Identifying needs for communications and emergency
- 25 response networks and making recommendations to accommodate
- 26 those needs.
- 27 (11) Monitoring the frequency of false alarms and associated
- 28 costs and making recommendations to reduce false alarms and
- 29 associated costs.
- 30 (12) Assessing the integration of earthquake seismic networks
- 31 and tsunami warning systems.
- 32 (13) Coordinating with other states to clarify tsunami alerts,
- 33 warnings, and warning cancellations from different sources, and
- 34 educating local jurisdictions on how to respond to differing warning
- 35 systems.
- 36 SEC. 2. If the Commission on State Mandates determines that
- 37 this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to
- 38 local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made

- 1 pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division
- 2 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

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