

Assembly Bill No. 319

Passed the Assembly September 12, 2007

Chief Clerk of the Assembly

Passed the Senate September 11, 2007

Secretary of the Senate

This bill was received by the Governor this _____ day
of _____, 2007, at _____ o'clock ____M.

Private Secretary of the Governor

CHAPTER _____

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, Nava. Emergencies: tsunami hazard preparedness and mitigation.

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 Preparedness and Mitigation Act of 2007, to establish the California Tsunami Hazard Preparedness and Mitigation Steering Committee, composed of representatives from state and local entities, to guide tsunami hazard preparation activities in the state, as specified. It would require the Office of Emergency Services, in conjunction with the steering committee, to establish a statewide tsunami hazard mitigation program to assist local governments in preparing for, responding to, and mitigating the effects of tsunamis, as specified. It would specify that these provisions would be implemented only to the extent federal funding is made available for that purpose. This bill would provide that participation in the statewide tsunami hazard mitigation program established by the office is discretionary on behalf of local governmental entities.

By requiring coastal counties and other local agencies to participate in the California Tsunami Steering Committee, this bill would impose a state-mandated local 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.

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

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

Article 4.7. Tsunami Hazard Preparedness and Mitigation Act
of 2007

8584.2. This article shall be known and may be cited as the Tsunami Hazard Preparedness and Mitigation Act of 2007.

8584.3. The California Tsunami Hazard Preparedness and Mitigation Steering Committee is hereby established in state government and shall consist of the following representatives:

(a) The Director of the Office of Emergency Services, or his or her designee, who shall serve as the chair of the committee.

(b) The State Geologist of the California Geological Survey, or his or her designee.

(c) The Executive Director of the Seismic Safety Commission, or his or her designee.

(d) The Director of Transportation, or his or her designee.

(e) The Executive Director of the California Coastal Commission, or his or her designee.

(f) The Director of Parks and Recreation, or his or her designee.

(g) The Director of Finance, or his or her designee.

(h) The Director of the Office of Emergency Services, or equivalent agency as determined by the chair of the committee, of the 15 coastal counties of Del Norte, Humboldt, Los Angeles, Marin, Mendocino, Monterey, Orange, San Diego, San Francisco, San Luis Obispo, San Mateo, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz, Sonoma, and Ventura, or their designees.

(i) Other state and local agencies, including one port district affected by a possible tsunami hazard, as deemed appropriate by the Director of the Office of Emergency Services.

8584.4. (a) The Office of Emergency Services shall establish a statewide tsunami hazard preparedness and mitigation program to assist local governments in preparing for, responding to, and mitigating the effects of tsunamis. Participation in the statewide tsunami hazard preparedness and mitigation program established

by the office shall be discretionary on behalf of local governmental entities.

(b) The Office of Emergency Services, in conjunction with the steering committee, shall establish the policy goals and priorities of the tsunami hazard preparedness and mitigation program that shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

(1) Review and assessment of existing tsunami hazard preparedness and mitigation programs to identify best practices and program gaps in existing tsunami preparedness and mitigation programs.

(2) Update the Office of Emergency Services' Local Planning Guide on Tsunami Response, or any similar document produced by a successor entity to the Office of Emergency Services, and make recommendations to government agencies, based upon its findings from the assessment of existing programs, to enhance tsunami hazard planning, response, and mitigation efforts, including public awareness and education campaigns and programs, emergency communications and alert notification programs and systems, emergency evacuation policies and procedures, tsunami warning and evacuation route signage programs, and programs that address the special needs of vulnerable populations.

(3) Convene workshops in the operational areas in the 15 coastal counties to discuss new technologies, policy changes in the national tsunami hazard mitigation program, and funding opportunities for local planning and mitigation programs. These workshops should also include tabletop exercises and after action reports to identify areas where improvements could be made to state and local plans.

(c) The Office of Emergency Services shall produce inundation maps and inundation modeling for the entire coast and coastal ports and harbors.

(d) The Office of Emergency Services shall, in its review of local government general plan safety elements and emergency response plans of coastal communities, ensure that these plans recognize tsunami hazards. The office shall make recommendations to the local plans to reduce the risks associated with tsunamis.

8584.5. This article shall be implemented only to the extent that federal funding is made available for that purpose.

8584.6. For purposes of this article, all references to the Office of Emergency Services shall also apply to any successor entity to that office.

SEC. 2. If the Commission on State Mandates determines that this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

Approved _____, 2007

Governor