

**Introduced by Senator Ashburn**

February 19, 2010

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An act relating to the environment.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1261, as introduced, Ashburn. Environment: California Environmental Quality Act: expedited review.

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires a lead agency, as defined, to prepare, or cause to be prepared, and certify the completion of, an environmental impact report (EIR) on a project that it proposes to carry out or approve that may have a significant effect on the environment or to adopt a negative declaration if it finds that the project will not have that effect. CEQA also requires a lead agency to prepare a mitigated negative declaration for a project that may have a significant effect on the environment if revisions in the project would avoid or mitigate that effect and there is no substantial evidence that the project, as revised, would have a significant effect on the environment.

This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation establishing a fast track environmental review process that maintains current environmental protection while expediting the review of projects related to green or renewable industries that will create jobs in the state.

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

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

- 1 SECTION 1. It is the intent of the Legislature to enact
- 2 legislation establishing a fast track environmental review process

- 1 that maintains current environmental protection while expediting
- 2 the review of projects related to green or renewable industries that
- 3 will create jobs in the state.

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