

Assembly Bill No. 474

CHAPTER 125

An act to amend Section 30324 of the Public Resources Code, relating to coastal resources.

[Approved by Governor July 16, 2014. Filed with Secretary of State July 16, 2014.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 474, Stone. California Coastal Commission: ex parte communications: disclosure forms.

Existing law, the California Coastal Act of 1976, establishes the California Coastal Commission and prohibits a member of the commission from conducting an ex parte communication unless the commission member fully discloses and makes public that communication, as specified. The act further requires the commission to adopt standard disclosure forms for reporting ex parte communications that include specified information relating to the date, time, and location of the communication, the identity of the person or persons initiating and the person receiving the communication, and a complete description of the content of the communication.

This bill would revise the information to be included in those standard disclosure forms to also include the identity of the person on whose behalf the communication was made, the identity of all persons present during the communication, and a complete, comprehensive description of the content of the ex parte communication, including a complete set of all text and graphic material that was part of the communication.

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

SECTION 1. Section 30324 of the Public Resources Code is amended to read:

30324. (a) No commission member, nor any interested person, shall conduct an ex parte communication unless the commission member fully discloses and makes public the ex parte communication by providing a full report of the communication to the executive director within seven days after the communication or, if the communication occurs within seven days of the next commission hearing, to the commission on the record of the proceeding at that hearing.

(b) (1) The commission shall adopt standard disclosure forms for reporting ex parte communications which shall include, but not be limited to, all of the following information:

(A) The date, time, and location of the communication.

(B) (i) The identity of the person or persons initiating and the person or persons receiving the communication.

(ii) The identity of the person on whose behalf the communication was made.

(iii) The identity of all persons present during the communication.

(C) A complete, comprehensive description of the content of the ex parte communication, including a complete set of all text and graphic material that was part of the communication.

(2) The executive director shall place in the public record any report of an ex parte communication.

(c) Communications shall cease to be ex parte communications when fully disclosed and placed in the commission's official record.