

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 30, 2014

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 7, 2014

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 9, 2014

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2013–14 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 2516**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Gordon  
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Achadjian, Lowenthal, Muratsuchi,  
Skinner, and Ting)**

February 21, 2014

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An act to add Division 20.6 (commencing with Section 30961) to the Public Resources Code, relating to sea level rise.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2516, as amended, Gordon. Sea level rise planning: database.

Existing law establishes the Natural Resources Agency consisting of various entities, departments, and boards, including the Department of Water Resources, the California Coastal Commission, the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission, the State Lands Commission, the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission, and the State Coastal Conservancy.

This bill would require, on or before January 1, 2016, the Natural Resources Agency, in collaboration with the Ocean Protection Council, to create, update ~~quarterly~~ *biannually*, and post on ~~its~~ *an* Internet Web site a Planning for Sea Level Rise Database describing steps being taken throughout the state to prepare for, and adapt to, sea level rise. The bill would require various public agencies and private entities to provide to the agency, by July 1, 2015, and, beginning January 1, 2016, on a ~~quarterly~~ *biannual* basis thereafter, sea level rise planning information,

as defined, that is under the control or jurisdiction of the public agencies or private entities. The bill would require the agency to determine which information is necessary for inclusion in the database and to organize the database by geographic region and provide an entry for each city, county, and city and county within the coastal zone and San Francisco Bay area.

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. Division 20.6 (commencing with Section 30961)  
2 is added to the Public Resources Code, to read:

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4 DIVISION 20.6. PLANNING FOR SEA LEVEL RISE  
5 DATABASE  
6

7 30961. It is the intent of the Legislature that the Planning for  
8 Sea Level Rise Database provide the public with an educational  
9 tool that will enable parties to view up-to-date information from  
10 a single, centrally located source about actions taken by cities,  
11 counties, cities and counties, regions, and public and private entities  
12 to address sea level rise.

13 30962. For purposes of this division, “sea level rise planning  
14 information” means studies, programs, modeling, mapping,  
15 cost-benefit analyses, vulnerability assessments, adaptation,  
16 assessments, and local coastal programs certified pursuant to  
17 Chapter 6 (commencing with Section 30500) of Division ~~20~~, 20  
18 that have been developed for the purposes of addressing or  
19 preparing for sea level rise.

20 30963. On or before January 1, 2016, the Natural Resources  
21 Agency, in collaboration with the Ocean Protection Council, shall  
22 create and post on ~~its~~ an Internet Web site a Planning for Sea Level  
23 Rise Database describing steps being taken throughout the state  
24 to prepare for, and adapt to, sea level rise. To be an effective  
25 inventory of sea level rise planning in the state, the Natural  
26 Resources Agency, beginning January 1, 2016, shall update the  
27 database ~~quarterly~~ *biannually* with information described in Section  
28 30964 and provided by the entities described in Section 30965.

1 30964. (a) No later than July 1, 2015, the entities listed in  
2 Section 30965 shall submit to the Natural Resources Agency sea  
3 level rise planning ~~information~~, *information* and, beginning January  
4 1, 2016, any new or updated sea level rise planning information  
5 on a ~~quarterly~~ *biannual* basis, in a format determined by the  
6 agency. The Natural Resources Agency shall make a determination  
7 as to which sea level rise planning information is necessary for  
8 inclusion in the database and may include any of the following:

- 9 (1) Purpose.
- 10 (2) The person or entity charged with developing the sea level  
11 rise planning information and other contributors or collaborators.
- 12 (3) Whether the sea level rise planning information is required  
13 to be developed by local, state, or federal law.
- 14 (4) Geographic scope of the sea level rise planning information.
- 15 (5) If the sea level rise planning information is an assessment,  
16 whether it is a risk or vulnerability assessment.
- 17 (6) Whether the sea level rise planning information has  
18 governance, environmental, economic, social equity, or public  
19 education objectives, or any combination thereof.
- 20 (7) The types of resources and infrastructure items on which  
21 the sea level rise planning information focuses. Types of resources  
22 and infrastructure items include, but are not limited to, wetlands,  
23 piers, and residential, commercial, industrial, and transportation  
24 structures.
- 25 (8) Source of funding for the sea level rise planning information.
- 26 (9) Cost of the sea level rise planning information.
- 27 (10) Any scientific considerations or science-based facts that  
28 are involved in the sea level rise planning information.
- 29 (11) Relevant maps.
- 30 (12) Links to other Internet Web site materials that provide  
31 further information.

32 (b) The California Coastal Commission shall provide the Natural  
33 Resources Agency with information regarding which cities,  
34 counties, and cities and counties located in the coastal zone, as  
35 defined in Section 30103, have implemented a local coastal  
36 program, including all of the following information:

- 37 (1) When the local coastal program was created.
- 38 (2) All dates on which the local coastal program was updated,  
39 if updated.
- 40 (3) Whether the local coastal program addresses sea level rise.

1 (4) Cities, counties, and cities and counties that do not have a  
2 local coastal program in place.

3 30965. (a) The following public agencies and private entities  
4 shall provide sea level rise planning information described in  
5 Section 30964 that is under the control or the jurisdiction of the  
6 public agency or private entity, as applicable, to the Natural  
7 Resources Agency by July 1, 2015, and, beginning January 1,  
8 2016, shall continue to provide updated information to the Natural  
9 Resources Agency on a ~~quarterly~~ *biannual* basis:

10 (1) Airports within the California coastal zone or San Francisco  
11 Bay area.

12 (2) California Coastal Commission.

13 (3) State Energy Resources Conservation and Development  
14 Commission.

15 (4) Ports located in the California coastal zone or San Francisco  
16 Bay area.

17 (5) Department of Transportation.

18 (6) Investor-owned utilities located in the California coastal  
19 zone or the San Francisco Bay area.

20 (7) Publicly owned electric and natural gas utilities located in  
21 the California coastal zone or San Francisco Bay area.

22 (8) Regional water quality control boards.

23 (9) San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development  
24 Commission.

25 (10) State Coastal Conservancy.

26 (11) State Lands Commission.

27 (12) State Water Resources Control Board.

28 (b) This section does not require sea level rise planning  
29 information to be developed, adopted, or updated by a public  
30 agency or private entity listed in subdivision (a).

31 (c) *The Ocean Protection Council, when necessary, shall request*  
32 *the information required by this section.*

33 30966. The Natural Resources Agency, in developing the  
34 Planning for Sea Level Rise Database, shall organize the database  
35 by geographic regions, provide an entry for each city, county, and  
36 city and county within the coastal zone and San Francisco Bay  
37 area, and include information described in Section 30964 under  
38 each entry. The Natural Resources Agency shall organize the  
39 database in a manner it determines best to provide the public with  
40 clear, useful, and readily accessible information.

1 30967. Nothing in this division shall alter the duties,  
2 responsibilities, and jurisdiction of state agencies that provide  
3 information pursuant to this division.

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