

**Introduced by Senator Leno**

March 19, 2014

---

Senate Joint Resolution No. 20—Relative to Safeguard Our Coast Day.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

SJR 20, as introduced, Leno. Safeguard Our Coast Day.

This measure would recognize the 50th anniversary of the state’s leadership and innovation in coastal planning and management and would proclaim February 16, 2015, and each 3rd Monday of February thereafter, as “Safeguard Our Coast Day.”

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, California’s coastal waters, waterfronts, wetlands,
- 2 harbors, estuaries, bays, ports, marinas, riparian areas, beaches,
- 3 and agricultural resources are important environmental and
- 4 economic resources of the state; and
- 5 WHEREAS, The coastal economy contributes \$96 billion
- 6 annually to the state; and
- 7 WHEREAS, Eighty percent of California’s 38 million residents
- 8 live and work within 30 miles of the state’s coastline; and
- 9 WHEREAS, California ports, fisheries, coastal tourism, and
- 10 other economically productive uses of the ocean and coastline
- 11 support jobs for Californians and promote foreign trade; and
- 12 WHEREAS, Coastal agriculture contributes substantially to the
- 13 food supply and is a vital part of the state’s economy; and
- 14 WHEREAS, The ecological value of healthy coastal wetlands
- 15 and other endangered habitats for the fish and wildlife of California
- 16 is immense; and

1 WHEREAS, The California coast supports numerous  
2 educational, scientific, and research activities; and

3 WHEREAS, The California coast offers cultural value and scenic  
4 resources for public enjoyment and recreation that contribute to  
5 the health and well-being of California residents and visitors from  
6 around the world; and

7 WHEREAS, The increasing and competing demands upon  
8 coastal lands and waters occasioned by population growth and  
9 economic development have resulted in adverse changes to fragile  
10 ecological systems and decreased open space for public recreation;  
11 and

12 WHEREAS, An innovative strategy for protecting and enhancing  
13 the coast and managing conflicts between development and coastal  
14 resource protection has been in effect on a regional scale since  
15 1965 in the San Francisco Bay area and for the entire California  
16 coast since 1972; and

17 WHEREAS, The National Coastal Zone Management Program  
18 was authorized by the federal Coastal Zone Management Act of  
19 1972 (CZMA) (16 U.S.C. Section 1451 and following) to balance  
20 economic development with the need to preserve, protect, enhance,  
21 and restore the nation's coastal resources; and

22 WHEREAS, The CZMA promotes coordination between the  
23 federal government and the states by encouraging coastal states  
24 to prepare coastal management programs that guide both state and  
25 federal activities affecting the coast; and

26 WHEREAS, California's coastal management program is  
27 implemented by various entities within the Natural Resources  
28 Agency, the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development  
29 Commission, the California Coastal Commission, the California  
30 Ocean Science Trust, and the State Coastal Conservancy, working  
31 together and in partnership with the Ocean Protection Council, the  
32 State Lands Commission, the Department of Fish and Wildlife,  
33 and other state agencies to carry out CZMA goals; and

34 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Bay Conservation and  
35 Development Commission, established by the McAteer-Petris Act  
36 (Title 7.2 (commencing with Section 66600) of the Government  
37 Code) in 1965, plans and regulates activities in and around the San  
38 Francisco Bay and the Suisun Marsh; and

39 WHEREAS, The California Coastal Commission, established  
40 by voter initiative in 1972 and on a permanent basis by the

1 Legislature in 1976, cooperates with local governments to manage  
2 the conservation and orderly development of coastal resources  
3 through a comprehensive planning and regulatory program; and

4 WHEREAS, The State Coastal Conservancy, established by the  
5 Legislature in 1976, complements the work of the two permitting  
6 agencies by employing nonregulatory, entrepreneurial techniques  
7 and collaboration to implement projects to preserve, protect, and  
8 restore public access, natural resources, urban waterfronts, and  
9 agricultural lands along the Pacific coast and the San Francisco  
10 Bay shoreline and its adjacent counties; and

11 WHEREAS, These three coastal management agencies, along  
12 with other departments of the Natural Resources Agency, are  
13 demonstrating leadership in the field of adaptation to climate  
14 change and sea level rise, which are increasingly threatening  
15 California’s coast and economy; and

16 WHEREAS, The state’s coastal management agencies  
17 collaborate, innovate, and work on behalf of all Californians to  
18 safeguard our coast; and

19 WHEREAS, Public participation is vital to the success of  
20 California’s coastal management programs; and

21 WHEREAS, Protection of coastal resources from the effects of  
22 sea level rise can provide valuable public benefits including, but  
23 not limited to, flood protection; improved water quality; habitat  
24 for fish, shellfish, and wildlife; recreational opportunities; enhanced  
25 quality of life; and increased economic opportunities and property  
26 values; and

27 WHEREAS, The state has a responsibility to manage and  
28 conserve the public trust in coastal and ocean ecosystems as well  
29 as the quality of life in coastal communities for the benefit of  
30 current and future generations; now, therefore, be it

31 *Resolved by the Senate and the Assembly of the State of*  
32 *California, jointly,* That the Legislature recognizes the 50th  
33 anniversary of the state’s leadership and innovation in enhancing  
34 our coast, our economy, and our lives through coastal planning  
35 and management, and supports the state’s role in the enhancement  
36 and protection of coastal and ocean resources in cooperation with  
37 the federal government; and be it further

38 *Resolved,* That the Legislature hereby proclaims February 16,  
39 2015, and each third Monday of February thereafter as “Safeguard  
40 Our Coast Day”; and be it further

- 1     *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
- 2     this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

O