

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 amended, 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

1 WHEREAS, The ecological value of healthy coastal wetlands
2 and other endangered habitats for the fish and wildlife of California
3 is immense; and

4 WHEREAS, The California coast supports numerous
5 educational, scientific, and research activities; and

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

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

15 WHEREAS, An innovative strategy for protecting and enhancing
16 the coast and managing conflicts between development and coastal
17 resource protection has been in effect on a regional scale since
18 1965 in the San Francisco Bay area and for the entire California
19 coast since 1972; and

20 WHEREAS, The National Coastal Zone Management Program
21 was authorized by the federal Coastal Zone Management Act of
22 1972 (CZMA) (16 U.S.C. Section 1451 and following) to balance
23 economic development with the need to preserve, protect, enhance,
24 and restore the nation's coastal resources; and

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

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

39 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Bay Conservation and
40 Development Commission, established by the McAteer-Petris Act

1 (Title 7.2 (commencing with Section 66600) of the Government
2 Code) in 1965, plans and regulates activities in and around the San
3 Francisco Bay and the Suisun Marsh; and

4 WHEREAS, The California Coastal Commission, established
5 by voter initiative in 1972 and on a permanent basis by the
6 Legislature in 1976, cooperates with local governments to manage
7 the conservation and orderly development of coastal resources
8 through a comprehensive planning and regulatory program; and

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

16 WHEREAS, These three coastal management agencies, along
17 with other departments of the Natural Resources Agency, are
18 demonstrating leadership in the field of adaptation to climate
19 change and sea level rise, which are increasingly threatening
20 California's coast and economy; and

21 WHEREAS, The state's coastal management agencies
22 collaborate, innovate, and work on behalf of all Californians to
23 safeguard our coast; and

24 WHEREAS, Public participation is vital to the success of
25 California's coastal management programs; and

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

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

36 *Resolved by the Senate and the Assembly of the State of*
37 *California, jointly,* That the Legislature recognizes the 50th
38 anniversary of the state's leadership and innovation in enhancing
39 our coast, our economy, and our lives through coastal planning
40 and management, and supports the state's role in the enhancement

1 and protection of coastal and ocean resources in cooperation with
2 the federal government; and be it further
3 *Resolved*, That the Legislature hereby proclaims February 16,
4 2015, and each third Monday of February thereafter as “Safeguard
5 Our Coast Day”; and be it further
6 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
7 this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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