

Introduced by Senator Harman
(Principal coauthor: Assembly Member Silva)

April 26, 2012

Senate Joint Resolution No. 24—Relative to the Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SJR 24, as introduced, Harman. Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach.

This measure would urge the California delegates of the Congress of the United States to protect the Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach during any upcoming base realignment and closure processes.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, United States Secretary of Defense, Leon Panetta,
2 recently released the 2013 fiscal year defense budget proposal
3 which includes a request for new base closures; and
4 WHEREAS, The Naval Weapons Station located at Seal Beach
5 in the County of Orange might be under consideration for closure
6 in the 2013 or 2015 closure periods; and
7 WHEREAS, The mission of the Naval Weapons Station Seal
8 Beach is to provide shore-based infrastructure support to the
9 Navy's ordnance mission and other fleet and fleet support
10 activities; and
11 WHEREAS, The Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach is the
12 United States Navy's primary West Coast ordnance storage,
13 loading, and maintenance installation in which the Navy's Pacific
14 Fleet is serviced and armed; and

1 WHEREAS, The next closest weapons station with a port facility
2 is Naval Magazine Indian Island in the County of Jefferson in
3 Washington State, approximately 1,000 miles away; and

4 WHEREAS, The Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach provides
5 600 civilians with work and retains 200 servicemen and
6 servicewomen on base at all times; and

7 WHEREAS, The impact of those 800 men and women on the
8 local, regional, and state economies is immeasurable; and

9 WHEREAS, The Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach includes
10 the Seal Beach National Wildlife Refuge, a 920-acre salt marsh;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, The Seal Beach National Wildlife Refuge provides
13 essential habitats for three endangered species, including the
14 light-footed clapper rail, the California least tern, and the Belding's
15 Savanna sparrow. The refuge becomes an ever more vital resource
16 to dwindling populations of native plants and animals in light of
17 urban sprawl and population growth which results in the loss and
18 degradation of wildlife habitats; and

19 WHEREAS, Another base closure in California could have a
20 devastating impact on the nation's security; and

21 WHEREAS, The impact of the closure of the Naval Weapons
22 Station Seal Beach goes beyond the employment of the base
23 personnel, impacting small local businesses, schools, sales and
24 property tax bases of the local community, the environment, the
25 hospitality industry, the housing market, and the local, regional,
26 and state economies; now, therefore, be it

27 *Resolved by the Senate and the Assembly of the State of*
28 *California, jointly*, That the Legislature urges the California
29 delegates of the Congress of the United States to protect the Naval
30 Weapons Station Seal Beach during any upcoming base
31 realignment and closure processes; and be it further

32 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
33 this resolution to the Secretary of Defense of the United States, to
34 the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to the Majority Leader
35 of the Senate, to the minority leader of each house, to each Senator
36 and Representative from California in the Congress of the United
37 States, and to the author for appropriate distribution.

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