

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 24, 2025

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2025–26 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1023

Introduced by Assembly Member Gipson

February 20, 2025

~~An act to amend Section 14000 of the Public Resources Code, relating to the California Conservation Corps. An act to add Article 3 (commencing with Section 30650) to Chapter 7 of Division 20 of the Public Resources Code, relating to coastal resources.~~

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1023, as amended, Gipson. ~~California Conservation Corps. Coastal resources: coastal development permits and procedures: Zero Emissions Port Electrification and Operations project.~~

Existing law, the California Coastal Act of 1976, requires any person wishing to perform or undertake any development in the coastal zone, as defined, in addition to obtaining any other permit required by law from any local government or from any state, regional, or local agency, to obtain a coastal development permit, as provided. The act further provides for the certification of local coastal programs by the California Coastal Commission. The act provides various procedures related to development control within areas of the coastal zone.

This bill would require a coastal development permit associated with the Zero Emissions Port Electrification and Operations project, as defined, to be considered to be within the boundaries of the Los Angeles Harbor District, and would provide the Los Angeles Harbor Department the sole authority to review the permit application and issue an associated coastal development permit on behalf of all jurisdictions ordinarily required to review the application. By placing additional

duties on the Los Angeles Harbor District and the Los Angeles Harbor Department regarding the review and approval of coastal development permits for the project, the bill would create a state-mandated local program. The bill would require any additional development project to install infrastructure or purchase or deploy equipment at a terminal within the boundary of the Port of Los Angeles's Port Master Plan that is not exempt from a coastal development permit to acquire a separate coastal development permit in conformity with the Port of Los Angeles's Port Master Plan. The bill would require the appropriate state agency to render a decision on an application for a permit required for the project, or an additional project associated with the completion of the project, within 90 days of submission of the application and, if no action is taken by the appropriate state agency within that time period, would provide that the permit shall be deemed issued.

This bill would make legislative findings and declarations as to the necessity of a special statute for the Port of Los Angeles.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

~~Existing law establishes the California Conservation Corps in the Natural Resources Agency and requires the corps to implement and administer the conservation corps program. Existing law makes various findings and declarations relating to the corps.~~

~~This bill would make a nonsubstantive change to those findings and declarations.~~

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no-yes.
State-mandated local program: no-yes.

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

1 *SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the*
2 *following:*

3 *(a) State law, including but not limited to, Section 2192 of the*
4 *Streets and Highways Code, prohibits public funding from being*
5 *used to purchase fully automated cargo handling equipment or*
6 *infrastructure supporting that automated equipment.*

1 (b) *The Zero Emissions Port Electrification and Operations*
2 *project, described in Article 3 (commencing with Section 30650)*
3 *of Chapter 7 of Division 20 of the Public Resources Code, is not*
4 *eligible for funding under the Clean Ports Program (42 U.S.C.*
5 *Sec. 7433) as part of the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 (Public*
6 *Law No. 117-169) as it is a stand-alone utility upgrade.*

7 (c) Expanded grid and fueling infrastructure will be necessary
8 to charge and fuel human-operated cargo handling equipment and
9 to meet the 2030 goals contained in the San Pedro Bay Ports Clean
10 Air Action Plan.

11 SEC. 2. Article 3 (commencing with Section 30650) is added
12 to Chapter 7 of Division 20 of the Public Resources Code, to read:

Article 3. Zero Emissions Port Electrification and Operations Project

30650. For purposes of this article, "project" means the Zero Emissions Port Electrification and Operations project or ZEPEO, an electric grid expansion project for the Port of Los Angeles (POLA) undertaken by the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power that will add at least 200 megawatts of electrical power for POLA and the surrounding communities through the expansion of Receiving Station Q at the existing Harbor Generating Station, expansion of Receiving Station C in the City of Wilmington, construction of a switching station in the City of Wilmington, construction of new distribution lines, and construction of new network stations at each container terminal and at Outer Harbor. For purposes of this article, any associated project required for the completion of ZEPEO, including the Avalon Promenade and Gateway Project, shall be subject to Sections 30651 and 30652.

30651. (a) Notwithstanding any other law, if a coastal development permit application that is associated with the project is required to be reviewed by more than one jurisdiction pursuant to this division, that permit shall be considered to be within the boundaries of the Los Angeles Harbor District, and the Los Angeles Harbor Department shall have sole authority to review the application and issue the applicable coastal development permit.

(b) The project as approved by the Los Angeles Harbor Department shall be deemed compliant with the land use plan of each local jurisdiction.

1 (c) The project shall not include the deployment, purchase, or
2 installation of any fully automated cargo handling equipment or
3 POLA-owned or POLA tenant-owned infrastructure supporting
4 the charging or fueling of fully automated cargo handling
5 equipment. For the purpose of this section, “fully automated” has
6 the same meaning as in Section 2192 of the Streets and Highways
7 Code.

8 (d) Any additional development project to install infrastructure
9 or purchase or deploy equipment at a terminal within the boundary
10 of the Port of Los Angeles’s Port Master Plan that is not exempt
11 from a coastal development permit pursuant to Section 30610 shall
12 require a separate coastal development permit in conformity with
13 the Port of Los Angeles’s Port Master Plan.

14 30652. Notwithstanding any other law, a state agency that
15 receives a permit application for a permit required for the project,
16 or an additional project associated with the completion of the
17 project, shall review and render a decision on the issuance of that
18 permit within 90 days of submission of the application, or the
19 permit shall be deemed issued.

20 SEC. 3. The Legislature finds and declares that a special statute
21 is necessary and that a general statute cannot be made applicable
22 within the meaning of Section 16 of Article IV of the California
23 Constitution because of the unique need to finish the Zero
24 Emissions Port Electrification and Operations project in the Port
25 of Los Angeles before the target completion date of 2030 and to
26 prepare for the 2028 Olympic Games in the City of Los Angeles.

27 SEC. 4. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to
28 Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because
29 a local agency or school district has the authority to levy service
30 charges, fees, or assessments sufficient to pay for the program or
31 level of service mandated by this act, within the meaning of Section
32 17556 of the Government Code.

33 SECTION 1. Section 14000 of the Public Resources Code is
34 amended to read:

35 14000. (a) The Legislature hereby finds and declares that every
36 California youth should be encouraged to reach their full potential,
37 but that many youths require guidance and support to reach their
38 goals and make positive changes in their lives.

39 (b) The Legislature finds and declares that conserving or
40 developing natural resources, and enhancing and maintaining

1 environmentally important lands and waters through the use of
2 California's young adults, is beneficial not only to the youth of
3 the state by providing them with educational and work
4 opportunities, but also is beneficial for the state's economy and
5 environment.

6 (e) The Legislature further finds and declares that the California
7 Conservation Corps continues to offer California a unique
8 opportunity to meet both the goal of increasing understanding and
9 appreciation of the environment and the goal of helping youths
10 become productive adults.

11 (d) The Legislature therefore reaffirms its intent that the corps'
12 mission includes increasing awareness of and improving our natural
13 resources, but more importantly, includes instilling basic skills
14 and a healthy work ethic in California youth, building their
15 character, self-esteem, and self-discipline, and establishing within
16 them a strong sense of civic responsibility and understanding of
17 the value of a day's work for a day's wages.

18 (e) It is the further intent of the Legislature that corpsmembers
19 graduate from the corps with good work habits, positive attitudes,
20 and broadened professional horizons. It is the intent of the
21 Legislature that the corps blend academic and job skills training
22 with personal growth opportunities in order to develop productive
23 youths who can make substantial contributions as California
24 workers and citizens.

25 (f) It is the further intent of the Legislature, in memory of Brian
26 Thomas "B.T." Collins and John E. "Jack" Dugan, and on behalf
27 of their passion, support, and commitment to the mission of the
28 corps, to ensure that the corps is an entrepreneurial and
29 incentive-based program with stable and predictable funding. In
30 pursuit of that goal, it is the intent of the Legislature that all state
31 agencies look to the corps first to perform those projects that meet
32 the mission of the corps.