

SENATE, No. 2161

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

218th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 5, 2018

Sponsored by:

Senator BOB ANDRZEJCZAK

District 1 (Atlantic, Cape May and Cumberland)

Senator JEFF VAN DREW

District 1 (Atlantic, Cape May and Cumberland)

SYNOPSIS

Creates State Dredging Task Force.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 1/29/2019)

1 AN ACT creating the State Dredging Task Force.

2

3 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
4 *of New Jersey:*

5

6 1. a. There is established the “State Dredging Task Force.”
7 The purpose of the task force shall be to investigate current
8 dredging policies and practices. The task force shall review the
9 current dredging policies and practices in the State and other states,
10 and examine how states and the appropriate counties in this State
11 and other states handle the process of dredging. The task force
12 shall also examine new and innovative methods of disposal of
13 dredged spoils, and shall recommend methods of disposal to be
14 considered by the State, a schedule establishing a regular cycle of
15 dredging projects, and ways to establish and maintain the State
16 dredging project priority list.

17 b. The task force shall consist of 11 members as follows:

18 (1) two members of the Senate appointed by the President of the
19 Senate, who shall not be both of the same political party, and one of
20 whom shall be appointed by the President of the Senate as
21 chairperson of the task force;

22 (2) two members of the General Assembly appointed by the
23 Speaker of the General Assembly, who shall not be both of the
24 same political party, and one of whom shall be appointed by the
25 Speaker of the General Assembly as vice chairperson of the task
26 force;

27 (3) the Commissioner of Environmental Protection, or the
28 commissioner’s designee;

29 (4) the Commissioner of Transportation, or the commissioner’s
30 designee;

31 (5) the director of The Center for Maritime Systems at Stevens
32 Institute of Technology, or the director’s designee;

33 (6) one representative of the academic community with
34 expertise, knowledge, or experience in coastal or ocean ecosystems
35 and habitat; and

36 (7) three representatives of coastal municipalities.

37 c. The task force shall call upon the United States Army Corps
38 of Engineers and request the participation of a representative from
39 that agency to serve on the task force, as a non-voting member, to
40 provide information on the current status of dredging policies and
41 practices as well as information regarding actions taken by other
42 states concerning dredging.

43 d. The four public members shall be appointed by the Governor
44 within 30 days after the date of enactment of this act.

45 e. Any vacancy in the membership of the task force shall be
46 filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

47 f. Members of the task force shall serve without compensation.

1 President of the Senate; two members, not of the same party, of the
2 General Assembly appointed by the Speaker of the General
3 Assembly; the Commissioner of Environmental Protection, or the
4 commissioner's designee; the Commissioner of Transportation, or
5 the commissioner's designee; the director of The Center for
6 Maritime Systems at Stevens Institute of Technology, or the
7 director's designee; and four public members. The public members
8 of the task force would be: one representative of the academic
9 community with expertise, knowledge, or experience in coastal or
10 ocean ecosystems and habitat; and three representatives of coastal
11 municipalities.

12 The task force is also directed to call upon the United States
13 Army Corps of Engineers and request the participation of a
14 representative from that agency to serve on the task force, as a non-
15 voting member, to provide information on the current status of
16 dredging policies and practices as well as information regarding
17 actions taken by other states concerning dredging.

18 The bill directs that one of the appointed Senators would be
19 appointed by the President of the Senate to be the chairperson of the
20 task force, and one of the appointed members of the General
21 Assembly would be appointed by the Speaker of the General
22 Assembly as the vice chairperson of the task force. The bill also
23 requires the Governor to appoint the four public members within 30
24 days after enactment and the task force to organize as soon as
25 practicable after the appointment of its members. The Office of
26 Legislative Services is directed to provide primary staff support.

27 The task force is required to hold at least four public hearings
28 with at least one hearing in each of the three main regions of the
29 State. The task force would submit a final report of its findings and
30 recommendation to the Governor and the Legislature within one
31 year after the date of its organization.