

# ASSEMBLY CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 99

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED SEPTEMBER 26, 1996

By Assemblymen CONNORS and MORAN

- 1   **A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION** condemning the recommendations of the  
2       proposed Coastal Hazard Management Plan for New Jersey prepared by  
3       the Rutgers Institute of Marine and Coastal Sciences.  
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- 5   **WHEREAS**, The Institute of Marine and Coastal Sciences at Rutgers, the State  
6       University of New Jersey, was commissioned by the Department of  
7       Environmental Protection in 1994 to conduct a reassessment of the New  
8       Jersey Shore Protection Master Plan of 1981; and
- 9   **WHEREAS**, The Institute, after over two years of study and at a cost to  
10      taxpayers of \$227,000, has released a final report, entitled the "Coastal  
11      Hazard Management Plan for New Jersey," that calls for abandoning the  
12      State's historical commitment to the protection of coastal resources and  
13      properties in favor of a State plan that advocates the creation of a State  
14      "division" dedicated to the management of coastal hazards and post-storm  
15      land use along the Jersey Shore; and
- 16   **WHEREAS**, The proposed plan advocates that the State enact building  
17      moratoria and relocation of people as part of post-disaster planning at the  
18      Shore, relocate roads and sewers away from high hazard areas, and  
19      encourage the enactment of zoning ordinances to limit development in high  
20      hazard areas; and
- 21   **WHEREAS**, The proposed plan calls for the elimination of beach protection  
22      projects in high erosion rate areas, and further discourages the use of beach  
23      restoration efforts except as a short-term approach, while recommending  
24      that public funds be directed only toward shore management alternatives  
25      that are part of a program to achieve long-term goals; and
- 26   **WHEREAS**, New Jersey has clearly established as a top priority and as a long-  
27      term goal the periodic replenishing and general preservation of the beaches  
28      of the State, and has done so by creating the Shore Protection Fund, a \$15  
29      million annual stable source of funding for beach replenishment; and
- 30   **WHEREAS**, Tourism could not exist without adequate protection of the Jersey  
31      Shore through periodic beach renourishment, and the billions of dollars in  
32      tourism spending in the coastal area constitute approximately one-half of  
33      total tourism spending in the State, which is estimated to be \$20 billion  
34      annually; and
- 35   **WHEREAS**, The proposed "Coastal Hazard Management Plan for New

1 Jersey," if adopted as the policy directive of the State, would have a  
2 disastrous effect on the shore tourism economy, including the potential loss  
3 of thousands of jobs directly and indirectly related to the tourism industry,  
4 on property values, and on State and local tax revenues; and  
5 **WHEREAS**, The proposed plan is nothing less than an abandonment of the  
6 State's historic commitment to its scenic beaches and to the preservation  
7 of the culture of the Jersey Shore, and thus a blueprint for dismantling the  
8 great heritage of our New Jersey Shore resort communities; now,  
9 therefore,

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11 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the General Assembly of the State of New Jersey  
12 (the Senate concurring):

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14 1. The Legislature of the State of New Jersey hereby condemns the  
15 "Coastal Hazard Management Plan for New Jersey" proposed by the Institute  
16 of Marine and Coastal Sciences and submitted to the Department of  
17 Environmental Protection for implementation.

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19 2. The Legislature further urges the Governor of the State of New Jersey,  
20 the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection and leaders  
21 of the State Legislature to prevent implementation of the recommendations  
22 contained in the proposed plan.

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24 3. Duly authenticated copies of this resolution, signed by the Speaker of  
25 the General Assembly and the President of the Senate and attested to by the  
26 Clerk of the General Assembly and the Secretary of the Senate, shall be  
27 transmitted to the Governor of the State of New Jersey and the Commissioner  
28 of the Department of Environmental Protection.

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STATEMENT

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33 This concurrent resolution condemns the Coastal Hazard Management Plan  
34 for New Jersey proposed by the Rutgers Institute of Marine and Coastal  
35 Sciences and submitted to the Department of Environmental Protection. The  
36 resolution urges the Governor and the commissioner of the department to  
37 prevent the implementation of the recommendations contained in the plan.

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3 Condemns proposed Coastal Hazard Management Plan for NJ and urges

4 prevention of its implementation.