

ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION No. 137

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 27, 1997

**By Assemblywoman WEINBERG, Assemblymen ZISA and
Impreveduto**

1 **AN ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION** condemning the United States Army Corps of
2 Engineers' proposed disposal of contaminated dredged materials at two
3 sites in Bergen County.

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5 **WHEREAS**, The sand, silt and mud that naturally accumulate in the navigation
6 channels and ship berths in the port area of northern New Jersey and New
7 York City must be dredged on a regular basis to ensure the continued
8 economic viability of the shipping and trade industry; and

9 **WHEREAS**, While the economic importance of dredging is significant, it is well
10 known that dredged material is often contaminated with toxic substances
11 that have been determined to be unacceptable for ocean disposal due both
12 to the health risks to aquatic life and the threat to human health; and

13 **WHEREAS**, A plan prepared by the United States Army Corps of Engineers,
14 identifies more than 50 options as feasible disposal alternatives, including
15 several new landfills in New Jersey, where sites located in the municipalities
16 of Leonia and Moonachie in Bergen County are targeted; and

17 **WHEREAS**, The proposed disposal facilities in the two Bergen County towns
18 would reportedly be situated adjacent to a public swimming pool, sensitive
19 watershed and wetlands areas, and a public park, and would needlessly
20 expose both the human population and sensitive environmental resources
21 to the proven harmful effects of dioxin, PCB's and other hazardous
22 substances found in most of the dredged material located in the port area;
23 now, therefore,

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25 **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:*

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27 1. The General Assembly condemns the United States Army Corps of
28 Engineers' proposed plan to dispose of toxic dredged materials in upland
29 disposal sites located in Bergen County and declares this option to be
30 unacceptable.

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32 2. This House implores the Corps to fully explore other disposal
33 alternatives and make exclusive use of these alternatives when contemplating
34 the future disposal of contaminated dredged materials.

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2 3. A duly authenticated copy of this resolution, signed by the Speaker of
3 the General Assembly and attested by the Clerk thereof, shall be forwarded
4 to the Colonel of the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

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STATEMENT

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9 This resolution condemns the United States Army Corps of Engineers'
10 proposed plan to dispose of toxic dredged materials in upland disposal sites
11 located in Bergen County and declares this option to be unacceptable. The
12 resolution further implores the Corps to fully explore other disposal alternatives
13 and make exclusive use of these alternatives when contemplating the future
14 disposal of contaminated dredged materials.

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19 Condemns Army Corps' proposed dredged material disposal in Bergen
20 County towns.