

# ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION No. 140

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## STATE OF NEW JERSEY

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INTRODUCED MARCH 3, 1997

**By Assemblymen CORODEMUS, BAGGER, Augustine, T. Smith,  
Azzolina and Gusciora**

1   **AN ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION** expressing strong and unqualified support for  
2   the application submitted by the Port Authority of New York and New  
3   Jersey to the United States Army Corps of Engineers to construct and  
4   operate, in Newark Bay in the City of Newark, Essex County, New  
5   Jersey, a subaqueous confined disposal facility for dredged materials.  
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7   **WHEREAS**, The sand, silt and mud, which naturally accumulate in the  
8   navigation channels and ship berths in the port area of northern New Jersey  
9   and New York City, must be dredged on a regular basis to ensure the  
10   continued economic viability of the shipping and trade industry, which  
11   creates more than 200,000 direct and indirect jobs, provides more than  
12   \$20 billion in regional economic benefits, and generates salaries and wages  
13   in excess of \$5 billion; and while the economic importance of dredging is  
14   significant, dredged material is often contaminated with harmful and  
15   dangerous substances that must be disposed of in an environmentally safe  
16   manner; and

17   **WHEREAS**, The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey has applied to  
18   the United States Army Corps of Engineers for authorization to construct  
19   and operate a subaqueous confined facility for the disposal of contaminated  
20   material dredged from the northern New Jersey - New York City port  
21   area contiguous to the State of New Jersey, including but not limited to  
22   Newark Bay, the Arthur Kill, and the Kill Van Kull, and which material has  
23   been deemed unsuitable for ocean disposal; and

24   **WHEREAS**, The original project application submitted by the Port Authority,  
25   which was made upon the recommendation of Governor Christine Todd  
26   Whitman's Dredged Materials Management Team, proposed construction  
27   of two subaqueous pits occupying a total area of 160 acres with a  
28   combined capacity of 14.5 million cubic yards if dredged to a depth of 70  
29   feet; but, on the basis of historical data, chemical analyses, and bioassay  
30   testing, the proposed project has been revised since to consist of three  
31   smaller pit areas occupying a total area of 55 acres with a combined  
32   capacity of 3.1 million cubic yards if dredged to the same depth; and

1   **WHEREAS**, Approval of the subaqueous confined dredged materials disposal  
2   facility is critically important because the project is one of the major  
3   environmentally safe and economically viable short-term options available  
4   to the Port Authority to dispose of the contaminated material that must be  
5   dredged immediately to keep vital shipping channels in the northern New  
6   Jersey - New York City port area open to vessels of all sizes; now,  
7   therefore,

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

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11       1. This House expresses its strong and unqualified support for the  
12 application submitted by the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey to  
13 the United States Army Corps of Engineers to construct and operate, in  
14 Newark Bay in the City of Newark, Essex County, New Jersey, a  
15 subaqueous confined disposal facility for dredged materials.

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17       2. Duly authenticated copies of this resolution, signed by the Speaker of  
18 the General Assembly and attested by the Clerk thereof, shall be transmitted  
19 to the Secretary of the United States Department of the Army, the  
20 Commander and Chief of Engineers of the United States Army Corps of  
21 Engineers, the Commander and District Engineer of the New York District of  
22 the United States Army Corps of Engineers, the Board of Commissioners of  
23 the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, the Chairman of Governor  
24 Whitman's Dredged Materials Management Team, the Commissioner of the  
25 New Jersey Department of Commerce and Economic Development, and the  
26 Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.

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## STATEMENT

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31 This resolution would express the General Assembly's strong and  
32 unqualified support for the application submitted by the Port Authority of New  
33 York and New Jersey to the United States Army Corps of Engineers to  
34 construct and operate, in Newark Bay in the City of Newark, Essex County,  
35 New Jersey, a subaqueous confined disposal facility for dredged materials.

36 Approval of the subaqueous confined dredged materials disposal facility is  
37 critically important because the project is one of the major environmentally  
38 safe and economically viable short-term options available to the Port Authority  
39 to dispose of the contaminated material that must be dredged immediately to  
40 keep vital shipping channels in the northern New Jersey - New York City port  
41 area open to vessels of all sizes.

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- 2 Expresses support for subaqueous confined disposal facility for dredged
- 3 materials in Newark Bay.