

[First Reprint]

ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION No. 140

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

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.
6

7 **WHEREAS**, The sand, silt and mud ¹[, which] that¹ naturally accumulate in the
8 navigation channels and ship berths in the port area of northern New Jersey
9 and New York City ¹[,],¹ 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 ¹[while the]

14 **WHEREAS**, The¹ economic importance of dredging is significant, dredged
15 material is often contaminated with harmful and dangerous substances that
16 must be disposed of in an environmentally safe 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 ¹[which] the¹
23 material has been deemed unsuitable for ocean disposal; and

24 **WHEREAS**, The original project application submitted by the Port Authority ¹[,
25 which] that¹ was made upon the recommendation of Governor Christine
26 Todd Whitman's Dredged Materials Management Team ¹[,],¹ proposed
27 construction of two subaqueous pits occupying a total area of 160 acres
28 with a combined capacity of 14.5 million cubic yards if dredged to a depth

**EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is
not enacted and intended to be omitted in the law.**

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹ Assembly AES committee amendments adopted May 1, 1997.

1 of 70 feet; but, on the basis of historical data, chemical analyses, and
2 bioassay testing, the proposed project has been revised since to consist of
3 three smaller pit areas occupying a total area of 55 acres with a combined
4 capacity of 3.1 million cubic yards if dredged to the same depth; and
5 **WHEREAS**, Approval of the subaqueous confined dredged materials disposal
6 facility is critically important because the project is one of the major
7 environmentally safe and economically viable short-term options available
8 to the Port Authority to dispose of the contaminated material that must be
9 dredged immediately to keep vital shipping channels in the northern New
10 Jersey - New York City port area open to vessels of all sizes; now,
11 therefore,

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

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

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

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35 Expresses support for subaqueous confined disposal facility for dredged
36 materials in Newark Bay.