

SENATE, No. 1016

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED MARCH 21, 1996

By Senators LYNCH, O'Connor, Kenny, Sacco, Codey,
Lipman, MacInnes and McGreevey

1 ANACT concerning water quality monitoring and supplementing Title
2 58 of the Revised Statutes.

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

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7 1. a. The Department of Environmental Protection, in conjunction
8 with the Department of Health, shall monitor dredging and dredged
9 material disposal projects and assess the impact of these projects on
10 the water quality and marine life in State waters. On the first day of
11 January following the effective date of this act and annually thereafter,
12 the department shall transmit a report to the Governor and the
13 Legislature on the impact of dredging and dredged material disposal
14 projects on the water quality and marine life in State waters, together
15 with any recommendations necessary for the protection of water
16 quality and human health from the effects of dredged material
17 disposal.

18 b. In conjunction with the monitoring and reporting required
19 pursuant to subsection a. of this section, the Division of Travel and
20 Tourism within the Department of Commerce and Economic
21 Development shall develop and implement a public information
22 program that promotes the recreational fishing industry in the State
23 and the importance of water quality protection for the industry. As
24 part of the program, the division shall develop, in conjunction with the
25 Departments of Environmental Protection and Health, the capability
26 to respond to reports of contamination of marine life habitat and other
27 pollution and provide the public with information concerning the
28 validity of the report and its potential threat to human health.

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30 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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35 This bill requires the Department of Environmental Protection to
36 monitor dredging and dredged material disposal projects and assess

1 their impact on the water quality and marine life in the waters of the
2 State. The department is also required to submit to the Governor and
3 the Legislature on the first day of January following the effective date
4 of this bill a report on the impact of dredged material disposal and the
5 department's recommendations for protecting water quality and human
6 health from the effects of dredged material disposal projects.

7 This bill further requires the Division of Travel and Tourism to
8 develop and implement an advertising campaign promoting the
9 recreational fishing industry in the State and the importance of water
10 quality protection for the industry. As part of the campaign, the
11 division shall develop, in conjunction with the Departments of
12 Environmental Protection and Health, a program to respond to reports
13 of contamination and provide the public with information concerning
14 the report, its validity and its potential threat to human health.

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19 Requires DEP to monitor impact of dredging on water quality and
20 marine life; establishes DCED public information program to promote
21 recreational fishing.