

Senate Bill No. 1574

CHAPTER 535

An act to add Section 12805.4 to the Government Code, relating to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

[Approved by Governor September 28, 2006. Filed with
Secretary of State September 28, 2006.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1574, Kuehl. Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

Existing law establishes the Resources Agency in state government and grants to that agency various supervisory powers over the state's resources. Existing law requires the Department of Water Resources and the Department of Fish and Game to identify, evaluate, and comparatively rate the principal options available to implement certain objectives that relate to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta or the Sacramento and San Joaquin river systems. Existing law requires the departments to jointly report to the Legislature and the Governor the results of their evaluations and comparative ratings, as specified, no later than January 1, 2008.

This bill additionally would require the Secretary of the Resources Agency to convene a committee to develop and submit to the Governor and the Legislature, on or before December 31, 2008, a Strategic Vision for a Sustainable Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta with specified components. The bill would authorize the committee, its members, and state agencies represented on the committee to enter into specified contracts.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 12805.4 is added to the Government Code, to read:

12805.4. (a) The Secretary of the Resources Agency shall convene a committee to develop and submit to the Governor and the Legislature, on or before December 31, 2008, a Strategic Vision for a Sustainable Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

(b) The committee shall include all of the following:

- (1) The Secretary of the Resources Agency.
- (2) The Secretary of the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency.
- (3) The Secretary for Environmental Protection.
- (4) The Secretary of Food and Agriculture.
- (5) The President of the Public Utilities Commission.

(c) The strategic vision shall address all of the following:

- (1) Sustainable ecosystem functions, including aquatic and terrestrial flora and fauna.
- (2) Sustainable land use and land use patterns.
- (3) Sustainable transportation uses, including streets, roads and highways, and waterborne transportation.
- (4) Sustainable utility uses, including aqueducts, pipelines, and power transmission corridors.
- (5) Sustainable water supply uses.
- (6) Sustainable recreation uses, including current and future recreational and tourism uses.
- (7) Sustainable flood management strategies.
- (8) Other aspects of sustainability deemed desirable by the committee.
- (d) The committee shall seek input from elected officials, governmental agencies, interested parties, educational institutions, and affected local communities. The Governor or the committee may appoint a “blue ribbon” or citizen commission, advisory committee, task force, or any other group or groups that the Governor or the committee deems necessary or desirable to assist in carrying out this section.
- (e) For the purposes of carrying out this section, the committee may also seek input from other policy and resource leaders.
- (f) All relevant state agencies, at the request of the committee, shall make available staff and resources to assist in the preparation of the strategic vision.
- (g) (1) The committee, its members, and state agencies represented on the committee may contract for consultants to assist in the preparation of the strategic vision.
- (2) Contracts entered into pursuant to paragraph (1) shall terminate no later than December 31, 2008.
- (3) Contracts entered into pursuant to paragraph (1) are exempt from Part 2 (commencing with Section 10100) of Division 2 of the Public Contract Code.