CONCURRENCE IN SENATE AMENDMENTS
AB 1448 (Hart)
As Amended August 4, 2026
Majority vote

SUMMARY

Modifies existing requirements for the transfer, assignment or modification of leases for oil and gas-related infrastructure upon tidelands and submerged lands within state waters associated with Pacific Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) leases; prohibits leases and oil- and gas-related infrastructure located upon tidelands and submerged lands from being used to support Pacific OCS leases issued after January 1, 2026; and limits the exception authorizing new oil- and gas-leasing on state tide and submerged lands within the California Coastal Sanctuary if state oil deposits are being drained from producing wells on federal lands to those areas not in the state's marine protected areas or national marine sanctuaries, as provided.

Senate Amendments

1) Strike all amendments to Public Resources Code 30262.
2) Prohibit the State Lands Commission (SLC) from entering into any lease for the extraction of oil or gas from state-owned tide and submerged lands in the California Coastal Sanctuary in areas designated as California marine protected areas pursuant to the Marine Life Protection Act as of, or after, January 1, 2026, or areas designated as national marine sanctuaries under the National Marine Sanctuaries Act as of, or after, January 1, 2026.
3) Prohibit any leases and oil- and gas-related infrastructure located upon tidelands and submerged lands within state waters be used to support Pacific OCS leases issued after January 1, 2026.
4) Require SLC to consider additional explicit factors when determining whether to approve a proposed lease assignment, renewal, modification, or amendment.
5) Require, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that this bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made.

COMMENTS

The current Trump Administration has reversed a January 2025 drilling ban in the outer continental shelf (OCS) part of a new 11th National OCS Oil and Gas Leasing program (National OCS Leasing Program). All of the Pacific coast, including six potential sales off the coast of California, has been proposed for inclusion. In addition, citing time constraints, the US Bureau of Ocean Engineering Management has announced it is not preparing an environmental impact statement (EIS) for the 2026 – 2031 National OCS Leasing Program, unlike those that had been prepared previously for earlier 5-year programs, and is not intending to provide the public an opportunity to comment on a draft programmatic EIS specific to offshore California leasing.

Similar to previous recent attempts to reopen federal OCS oil and gas leasing offshore California, there is considerable opposition. The commission recently approved a resolution in opposition and Governor Newsom has stated his Administration's opposition.

According to the Author
AB 1448 aims to enhance the California SLC's authority to protect designated lands from the expansion of oil- and gas- related infrastructure.

Arguments in Support
In a joint sign-on letter, the Center for Biological Diversity and the Environmental Defense Center write, "AB1448 will safeguard our coast against federal attempts to unlawfully open federal waters to new oil leasing off California. The Trump Administration has pledged to drill everywhere and will undoubtedly seek to expand Pacific offshore drilling. Current gaps in state law leave untoward paths for federal oil expansion through existing infrastructure in state waters. AB1448 takes a firm stand against efforts to expand drilling off our coast, to protect against associated risks to California interests.

Moreover, AB1448 addresses the need to prevent aging infrastructure from expanded or prolonged use when it should be retired. Offshore oil infrastructure has outlived its lifespan and presents significant risks. This bill requires strict environmental considerations for the reactivation of oil projects that have been shut down. Recent oil spills off our coast are stark reminders of the need to decommission — not restart — antiquated infrastructure."

Arguments in Opposition
The State Building and Construction Trades Council of California write, "On the heels of several recent policy decisions that have led to the announced closures of two additional refineries in California, this bill seeks to cut off yet another source of domestic crude oil for our in-state refineries. Simply put, California and every Californian cannot afford this bill or policies like it, making it increasingly difficult and prohibitively expensive to operate refineries in-state."

FISCAL COMMENTS

According to the Senate Appropriations Committee to a previous version of the bill:

1) Potential loss in annual rental revenue of an unknown amount, potentially in excess of $150,000, from offshore oil- and gas-related infrastructure leases to the extent the SLC or a local trustee denies one or more applications for a lease renewal, extension, amendment, assignment, or modification, as a result of the bill's requirements and conditions (General Fund). SLC collected approximately $949,000 in rental revenue from its approximately one dozen pipeline right-of-way leases in fiscal year 2023-24.

2) By imposing additional duties on local trustees in the consideration of a lease renewal, extension, amendment, assignment, or modification, and by imposing additional duties on a local government with a certified LCP in processing and reviewing an application for a CDP, this bill imposes a state-mandated local program. These costs are potentially reimbursable by the state, subject to a determination by the Commission on State Mandates (General Fund).

VOTES:

ASM NATURAL RESOURCES: 10-4-0
YES: Bryan, Connolly, Garcia, Haney, Kalra, Muratsuchi, Pellerin, Schultz, Wicks, Zbur
NO: Alanis, Ellis, Flora, Hoover

ASM APPROPRIATIONS: 11-3-1
YES: Wicks, Arambula, Calderon, Caloza, Elhawary, Fong, Mark González, Hart, Pacheco, Pellerin, Solache
NO: Dixon, Ta, Tangipa
ABS, ABST OR NV: Sanchez

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 42-26-11
YES: Addis, Ahrens, Arambula, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Connolly, Elhawary, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Mark González, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lee, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Ortega, Papan, Pellerin, Celeste Rodriguez, Rogers, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Stefani, Ward, Wicks, Zbur, Rivas
NO: Alanis, Ávila Farías, Bains, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, DeMaio, Dixon, Ellis, Flora, Gallagher, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Hadwick, Hoover, Lackey, Macedo, Patterson, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Soria, Ta, Tangipa, Wallis
ABS, ABST OR NV: Aguiar-Curry, Alvarez, Davies, Nguyen, Pacheco, Patel, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Valencia, Wilson

UPDATED

VERSION: August 4, 2026

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