

Date of Hearing: June 8, 2026

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Isaac G. Bryan, Chair

SB 1428 (Committee on Natural Resources and Water) – As Amended April 6, 2026

SENATE VOTE: 38-0

SUBJECT: Gravity-Based Energy Storage Well Pilot Program: marine invasive species:
Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force: public lands

SUMMARY: Changes certain cross references to the federal Vessel Incidental Discharge Act, corrects erroneous cross-references, and makes a technical change.

EXISTING LAW:

- 1) Sunsets authorization for the gravity-based energy storage wells pilot program on January 1, 2035. (Public Resources Code (PRC) 3190.9)
- 2) Defines “Task Force” as the Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force established by the Governor to oversee implementation of Executive Order No. B-52-18 (PRC 4005).
- 3) Requires the State Lands Commission (SLC) to adopt regulations to require an owner or operator of a vessel carrying, or capable of carrying, ballast water that operates in the waters of the state to implement the ballast water discharge performance standards pursuant to federal regulations. (PRC 71205.3)
- 4) Lifts, until February 1, 2066, the use restrictions imposed by the granting statutes and the public trust doctrine with respect to after-acquired lands, property that is not original tidelands or submerged lands, title to which was not derived from the granting statutes, that were acquired with public trust funds derived from port operations as specified, in Jack London Square and authorizes the Port of Oakland (Port) to lease these lands for any purpose subject to specified conditions. The Port is authorized to lease after-acquired lands for a nontrust use only if the port finds specified conditions are met, including, among other conditions, that the nontrust uses will not impair or harm existing public access or public trust uses and are intended to attract the statewide public to Jack London Square and the waterfront to promote increased use and enjoyment of the area. (Section 4, Chapter 578, Statutes of 2025)

THIS BILL:

- 1) Corrects a cross reference for the state Oil and Gas Supervisor’s authority in the gravity-based energy storage wells pilot program.
- 2) Corrects a refence to the Task Force.
- 3) Requires SLC to adopt a regulation that requires an owner or operator of a vessel carrying, or capable of carrying, ballast water that operates in the waters of the state to implement the ballast water discharge performance standards set forth in a different specified federal law and to comply with the implementation schedule set forth in specified federal regulations.

- 4) Requires SLC to consult with the US Coast Guard on an alternative, environmentally sound method of ballast water management when the ballast water treatment system stops operating during a voyage in accordance with additional federal law relating to standards of performance for marine sanitation devices.
- 5) Corrects an erroneous cross-reference relating to the Port of Oakland's requirement to make certain findings.

FISCAL EFFECT: Nonfiscal

COMMENTS:

- 1) **Need for the bill.** This is the Senate Natural Resources & Water Committee's omnibus bill and contains various technical and clarifying changes within the committee's jurisdiction. The changes in the bill are as follows:
 - Section 1: Corrects an erroneous cross reference in the State Oil and Gas Supervisor's authorization to convert wells for use as gravity-based energy storage wells, as specified.
 - Section 2: Clarifies a reference to the Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force.
 - Section 3: Updates the references to federal regulations to reflect certain revisions to US Environmental Protection Agency and US Coast Guard regulations implementing the Vessel Incidental Discharge Act and provides that these updates go into effect when the federal regulations become effective, as provided.
 - Section 4: Fixes a typo in a public trust land granting statute for Jack London Square in the City of Oakland [SB 304 (Arreguín), Chapter 578, Statutes of 2025].

REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:

Support

State Lands Commission

Opposition

None on file

Analysis Prepared by: Paige Brokaw / NAT. RES. /