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**AB-1282 Transportation Permitting Task Force.** (2017-2018)

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**Assembly Bill No. 1282**

**CHAPTER 643**

An act to add Section 155.7 to the Streets and Highways Code, relating to transportation.

[ Approved by Governor October 10, 2017. Filed with Secretary of State October 10, 2017. ]

**LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST**

AB 1282, Mullin. Transportation Permitting Task Force.

Existing law establishes the Department of Transportation and the California Transportation Commission and provides that the department has full possession and control of all state highways and all property and rights in property acquired for state highway purposes and authorizes and directs the department to lay out and construct all state highways between the termini designated by law and on the locations as determined by the commission.

This bill would require, by April 1, 2018, the Secretary of Transportation, in consultation with the Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency, to establish a Transportation Permitting Task Force consisting of representatives from specified entities to develop a process for early engagement for all parties in the development of transportation projects, establish reasonable deadlines for permit approvals, and provide for greater certainty of permit approval requirements. The bill would require the Secretary of Transportation, by December 1, 2019, to prepare and submit to the relevant policy and fiscal committees of the Legislature a report of findings based on the efforts of the task force.

Vote: majority Appropriation: no Fiscal Committee: yes Local Program: no

**THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:**

**SECTION 1.** Section 155.7 is added to the Streets and Highways Code, to read:

**155.7.** (a) On or before April 1, 2018, the Secretary of Transportation, in consultation with the Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency, shall establish a Transportation Permitting Taskforce consisting of the following members:

- (1) The Secretary of Transportation or his or her designee.
- (2) The Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency or his or her designee.
- (3) The Chair of the California Transportation Commission or his or her designee.
- (4) Representatives from the following:
  - (A) Department of Transportation.

(B) Department of Fish and Wildlife.

(C) The State Water Resources Control Board.

(D) Regional water quality control boards.

(E) The California Coastal Commission.

(F) Other relevant state or public entities.

(b) The taskforce shall develop a structured coordination process for early engagement of all parties in the development of transportation projects to reduce permit processing time, establish reasonable deadlines for permit approvals, and provide for greater certainty of permit approval requirements.

(c) (1) On or before December 1, 2019, the Secretary of Transportation shall prepare and submit to the appropriate policy and fiscal committees of the Legislature, pursuant to Section 9795 of the Government Code, a report of findings based on the efforts of the taskforce. The report shall include, but is not limited to, a detail analysis of the following issues:

(A) The existing permitting process for transportation projects in California, including a discussion of the points in the process where delays are most likely to occur.

(B) The utilization of existing positions in the various state resource agencies currently supported by transportation funds, including an analysis of the benefits of those positions to the state's transportation programs relative to their costs.

(C) The process developed pursuant to subdivision (b).

(D) Resource levels needed at the resource agencies to implement the process developed pursuant to subdivision (b).

(E) Legislative or regulatory issues, if any, that need to be addressed to implement the process developed pursuant to subdivision (b).

(2) Pursuant to Section 10231.5 of the Government Code, this subdivision shall be inoperative on December 1, 2023.