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## **OLR Bill Analysis**

### **sSB 290**

#### ***AN ACT CONCERNING MINOR REVISIONS TO ENVIRONMENT RELATED STATUTES.***

#### **SUMMARY**

This bill increases (1) from \$500,000 to \$1 million, the threshold amount for when the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) must obtain prior Department of Administrative Services (DAS) approval for certain construction, alteration, or repair projects and (2) from \$1 million to \$3 million, the threshold for when DAS's project authority applies. It expands the list of projects to which the thresholds apply and requires that the thresholds be adjusted annually for inflation beginning by July 1, 2024 (§ 2).

The bill also specifies that the packaging material component law's definition of "intentionally introduced" does not include using PFAS (i.e., perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances) as a processing agent or intermediate during manufacturing under certain circumstances. Under existing law, a parallel exemption applies to regulated metals (§ 1).

Lastly, the bill removes the Department of Consumer Protection's Liquor Control Division as a recipient of the semi-annual sales reports that nip wholesalers must provide on how many nips are sold in each town (§ 3).

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

#### **DEEP PROJECT THRESHOLDS**

Under current law, DAS has general supervisory authority over construction work involving most state property, but DEEP may, without DAS's prior approval, construct, repair, or contract for a dam or flood and erosion control system under its control or management.

DEEP may also (1) alter, repair, or add to any other of its real assets (or contract to do it) if the cost is \$500,000 or less or (2) do these things if the cost is up to \$1 million and DAS approves.

Beginning July 1, 2024, the bill (1) increases, to \$1 million, the dollar threshold for DEEP to administer projects without DAS approval and (2) expands the list of projects to which this threshold applies to specifically include DEEP service roads, trails, and greenways; bridges; dams; flood prevention, climate resilience, and erosion control systems; and other civil or natural resource infrastructure.

The bill also, beginning the same date, (1) increases, from \$1 million to \$3 million, the threshold project amount for DEEP to obtain DAS's prior approval to alter, repair, or add to its other real assets and (2) applies this \$3 million threshold to the expanded list of projects described above. As under existing law, projects above this threshold are subject to DAS's authority.

Beginning July 1, 2024, the bill requires DAS to annually adjust the thresholds by the percentage change in the Producer Price Index by Commodity: Construction (Partial)(WPU80), not seasonally adjusted, or its successor index, as calculated by the U.S. Department of Labor, over the preceding calendar year. DAS must round the adjustment to the nearest multiple of \$100 and post the adjusted thresholds on its website.

## **COMMITTEE ACTION**

Environment Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 34 Nay 0 (03/15/2024)