


**REPORT OF THE
CHIEF LEGISLATIVE ANALYST**

DATE: July 1, 2019

TO: Honorable Members of the Rules, Elections, and Intergovernmental Relations Committee

FROM: Sharon M. Tso 
Chief Legislative Analyst

Council File No.: 19-0002-S132
Assignment No.: 19-06-0716

SUBJECT: Resolution (Buscaino – Bonin – Wesson – et. al) in support of AB 1321 (Gipson)

CLA RECOMMENDATION: Adopt the attached Resolution to include in the City’s 2019-2020 State Legislative Program SUPPORT for AB 1321 (Gipson), which would authorize the State Lands Commission to approve the use of automated technology at coastal ports if the automation will provide a safe working environment and not cause critical damage to the state economy or to the surrounding local communities.

SUMMARY

AB 1321 (Gipson) would authorize the State Lands Commission to approve the use of automated technology at coastal ports within the commission’s jurisdiction on a case-by-case basis. The bill would explicitly allow the commission to consider automation’s effects on the safety of the working environment at the coastal port and the economic impact, including an estimate of job losses or gains, when determining whether to approve proposals.

According to Resolution (Buscaino – Bonin – Wesson – et. al), introduced on June 28, 2019, ports around the world have begun automating jobs once performed by workers. Per the Resolution, automation displaces workers and eliminates jobs and careers that make up the backbone of local economies. The Resolution states that AB 1321 would ensure that the employment of automated technology at coastal ports is not conducted without oversight or consideration of automation’s economic impacts to local communities.

The Resolution seeks an official position of the City to support AB 1321 to allow the State Lands Commission to approve automation at coastal ports on a case-by-case basis when the use of automated technology will provide a safe working environment and not cause critical damage to the state economy or to the surrounding local communities.

BACKGROUND

Existing state law requires a permit for development activities within coastal zones. If a port adopts a certified master plan, coastal permit jurisdiction is transferred to the port authority. Under the Harbor Department’s Port Master Plan, the Board of Harbor Commissioners may approve certain coastal development permits.

Currently, the Port Master Plan does not explicitly allow for the consideration of economic impacts when approving coastal development permits. When approving a coastal development permit

application, the Harbor Commission is to consider the potential change in land and/or water use, change in density or intensity of land and water usage, environmental impacts, and the amount of resources needed for the proposal. Additionally, the Port Master Plan states that Port tenants “should be encouraged to modernize their facilities and implement new technologies, including automated container terminal technology.”

The Harbor Department manages public tidelands and water held in trust by the City under a State Tidelands Grant. The State Lands Commission is responsible for overseeing the management of public trust lands granted to local entities. AB 1321 would provide a formal mechanism by which the State Lands Commission may establish oversight over the use of automated technology at coastal ports. It would also require the State Lands Commission to submit an annual report to the State Legislature detailing each approved automation proposal.


AB 1321 was amended on June 17, 2019 to address issues of automation. Originally, AB 1321 dealt with the operation and maintenance of juvenile halls.

DEPARTMENTS NOTIFIED

Harbor Department

BILL STATUS

02/22/19	Introduced.
02/25/19	Read first time.
03/18/19	Referred to Com. on PUB. S.
03/27/19	Amended. Re-referred to Com. on PUB. S. Read second time and amended.
04/10/19	Passed Com. on PUB. S. (5-0). Re-referred to Com. on APPR.
04/24/19	Referred to APPR. suspense file.
05/16/19	Amended. Passed Com. on APPR. (14-1).
05/29/19	Passed Assembly (66-5). Ordered to Senate.
05/30/19	In Senate. Referred to Com. on RLS. for assignment.
06/12/19	Referred to Com. on PUB. S.
06/17/19	Amended. Re-referred to Com. on PUB. S.
06/18/19	Withdrawn from committee. Re-referred to Com. on RLS.
06/19/19	Re-referred to Com. on N.R. & W.



Matthew Shade
Analyst

Attachments: 1. Resolution

RULE 16 FOR 7/3/19

~~RULES, ELECTIONS & INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS~~

TO CITY CLERK FOR PLACEMENT ON NEXT
REGULAR COUNCIL AGENDA TO BE POSTED #53

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state or federal governmental body or agency must have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, the economic security of the Port of Los Angeles, the port workers, and the surrounding communities is critical to the economic vitality of the City and Southern California region; and

WHEREAS, automation displaces workers in the name of economic efficiency while eliminating jobs and careers that make up the backbone of local economies; and

WHEREAS, ports around the world have begun automating jobs once performed by workers; and

WHEREAS, the City and State should make all efforts possible to craft thoughtful policy and discussion on how to promote clean energy, maintain economic competitiveness, and protect workers' rights; and

WHEREAS, a bill pending in the State Senate, AB 1321 (Gipson), would authorize the State Lands Commission to approve the use of automated technology on the property of coastal ports on a case-by-case basis, taking into account the impact automation will have on local and state economies; and

WHEREAS, this bill will ensure that the process of automation is not conducted with little to no oversight and without consideration of automation's wider economic impacts;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2019-2020 State Legislative Program SUPPORT for AB 1321 (Gipson), which would authorize the State Lands Commission to approve the use of automated technology at coastal ports if the automation will provide a safe working environment and not cause critical damage to the state economy or to the surrounding local communities.

PRESENTED BY: Joe Buscaino
JOE BUSCAINO
Councilmember, 15th District

SECONDED BY: Paul Kuntz
Paul Kuntz
Marty Martinez

ORIGINAL

majs

JUN 28 2019

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