STATE OF NEW YORK

9036

IN ASSEMBLY

February 5, 2024

Introduced by M. of A. PHEFFER AMATO -- read once and referred to the Committee on Environmental Conservation

AN ACT directing the department of environmental conservation to conduct a study on ecological restoration needs of Jamaica Bay

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

- Section 1. (a) The department of environmental conservation shall conduct a beneficial use study to determine ecological restoration needs in Jamaica Bay. Such study shall include, but not be limited to:
- 4 (i) a description of the bathymetry of target areas of Jamaica Bay and 5 a map of the borrow pits;
- 6 (ii) the ecological service quality of the borrow pits over multiple 7 weather seasons at multiple depths, including in-depth analysis of the 8 populations of fin fish species that utilize such areas during different 9 seasons;
 - (iii) the geotechnical conditions of all pit bottoms;

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- 11 (iv) the significance of the borrow pits regarding the absorption of 12 heat during summer months when adjacent shallow areas experience ulva 13 sulfide conditions; and
- (v) any other policy recommendations regarding the ecological restoration of Jamaica Bay.
 - (b) The department of environmental conservation shall:
- 17 (i) issue a report on the findings of such study to the governor, the 18 temporary president of the senate and the speaker of the assembly no 19 later than March 30, 2029; and
- 20 (ii) publish such report on the department of environmental conserva-21 tion's website.
- (c) There shall be a moratorium of any placement of any type of sediment or fill into the borrow pits in Jamaica Bay for a period of five years commencing on the effective date of this act, or until the study is completed and published, whichever is later.
 - § 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

EXPLANATION--Matter in <u>italics</u> (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[-] is old law to be omitted.

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