CHAPTER 1190

An act conveying certain tidelands, lands lying under inland navigable waters, swamp and overflow lands, situate in the Old Salinas River Channel, to the Moss Landing Harbor District, in furtherance of navigation and commerce and the fisheries, and providing for the government, management and control thereof, reserving rights to the State.

[Approved by Governor July 8, 1947. Filed with Secretary of State July 8, 1947.]

In effect September 19, 1947

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. There is hereby granted to the Moss Landing Harbor District, hereinafter called "district," a political subdivision of the State of California, and to its successors, all the right, title, and interest now held by the State of California by virtue of its sovereignty, in and to all lands, salt marsh, tidelands, submerged lands, and swamps and overflowed lands described as follows:

The Old Salinas River Channel from the northerly extremity to its mouth southerly to the existing county road across said channel south of the existing bridge at Moss Landing; the Pacific Ocean opposite said portion of the Old Salinas River...
with its northerly and southerly boundaries drawn due west; Bennett Slough, Elkhorn Slough and Moro Cojo Slough between the Old Salinas River and the easterly extremities of tidal action therein.

To be forever held by said district, and its successors, in trust for the uses and purposes and upon the express conditions following, to wit:

(a) That said lands shall be used by said district, and its successors, only for the establishment, improvement, and conduct of a harbor, and for the construction, maintenance, and operation thereon of wharves, docks, piers, slips, quays, and other utilities, structures, facilities, and appliances necessary or convenient for the promotion and accommodation of commerce and navigation; and said district, or its successors, shall not, at any time, grant, convey, give or alien said lands, or any part thereof, to any individual, firm or corporation for any purposes whatever; provided, that said district, or its successors, may grant franchises thereon for limited periods (but in no event exceeding 50 years), for wharves and other public uses and purposes and may lease said lands, or any part thereof, for limited periods (but in no event exceeding 50 years), for purposes consistent with the trust upon which said lands are held by the State of California, and with the requirements of commerce and navigation at said harbor.

(b) That said lands shall be improved by said district without expense to the State, and shall always remain available for public use for all purposes of commerce and navigation, and the State of California shall have at all times, the right to use, without charge, all wharves, docks, piers, slips, quays, and other improvements and facilities constructed on said lands, or any part thereof, for any vessel or railroad, owned or operated by the State of California.

(c) That in the management, conduct or operation of said harbor, or of any of the utilities, structures, appliances or facilities mentioned in paragraph (a), no discrimination in rates, tolls, or charges or in facilities for any use or service in connection therewith shall ever be made, authorized or permitted by said district or its successors.

(d) There is hereby reserved, however, in the people of the State of California the absolute right to fish in the waters of said harbor with the right of convenient access to said waters over said lands for said purposes together with the right of navigation.

(e) There is hereby excepted and reserved to the State of California all deposits of minerals, including oil and gas, in said land, and to the State of California, or persons authorized by the State of California, the right to prospect for, mine, and remove such deposits from said land; provided, that said excepted and reserved power shall be exercised in a manner not inconsistent or incompatible with the use of said lands by grantee for purposes of commerce and navigation.
(f) The lands herein described are granted subject to the express reservation and condition that the State may at any time in the future use said lands or any portion thereof for highway purposes without compensation to the district, its successors or assigns, or any person, firm or public or private corporation claiming under it, except that in the event improvements have been placed upon the property taken by the State for said purposes, compensation shall be made to the person entitled thereto for the value of his interest in the improvements taken or the damages to such interest.

(g) That within 10 years from the effective date of this act said lands shall be substantially improved by said district without expense to the State, and if the State Lands Commission determines that the district has failed to improve said lands as herein required, all right, title, and interest of said district in and to all lands granted by this act shall cease and said lands shall revert and vest in the State.

Sec. 2. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of this act, or the application of such provision to other persons or circumstances, shall not be affected thereby.