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Courtesy of The Sacramento Bee

Oil Rigs Could be Converted into Reefs for Fish.



Offshore oil drilling rigs due to be retired may be converted into artificial reefs for fish and other marine life under legislation winning unanimous Assembly approval today.

The Assembly sent Assembly Bill 2503 by Assembly Speaker John A. Pérez to Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger on a 54-0 vote after Pérez took amendments that eliminated the initial opposition to his late-blooming measure.

Oil companies seeking to convert platforms to reefs would have to share their financial savings with the state, and the proceeds would finance marine improvement programs.

PHOTO CREDIT: This Jan. 20, 2010, file photo shows high-storm surf pounding the beach in front of an oil rig at California's Seal Beach. (AP Photo/ Nick Ut, File)