

Demise of health plan shows the system works

[Skelton, from Page B1] insurance for roughly 5 million uncovered Californians. Finally in mid-December, the governor and speaker compromised on a strange deal. The Legislature would pass a plan providing the coverage benefits on a majority vote. But to raise the revenue — hospital and employer fees, a stiff tobacco tax — citizen signatures would be collected and an initiative placed on the November ballot. That was necessary because a two-thirds vote was required to pass a revenue bill. And Schwarzenegger couldn't deliver the needed Republicans.

Time was crucial to qualify the measure. So the benefits

bill." Responds Kuehl: "He's a petulant little boy who doesn't like the fact that she gave a real analysis."

Perata, although technically a coauthor of the measure, was not personally part of the bargaining with Schwarzenegger. So he didn't have much invested. Indeed, as Senate opposition grew, he decided to follow his colleagues rather than risk unsuccessfully trying to lead them toward voting for the bill. At a Democratic caucus Monday, Perata actually asked that no committee members vote for the measure in order to show party unity.

Another factor was that as

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U.S. Navy Announces Alternative Arrangements for Implementing the National Environmental Policy Act and Requests Public Input

On January 15, 2008, the Department of the Navy accepted alternative arrangements, approved by the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ), for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). These alternative arrangements specifically address the use of mid-frequency active (MFA) sonar and its effects on marine mammals during Navy exercises in Southern California (SOCAL) Operating areas. These exercises include Composite Training Unit Exercises (COMPTUEXs) and Joint Task Force Exercises (JTTEXs) scheduled to occur between January 15, 2008 and January 23, 2009. A Decision Memorandum documenting the Navy's acceptance of these alternative arrangements was published in the Federal Register on January 24, 2008.

Information on the Navy's proposals for the SOCAL Operating Area including the full text of the Decision Memorandum is available at www.SOCALRangeComplexEIS.com.

The Navy will prepare a post-exercise assessment after each exercise. By this Notice, the Navy requests input from the public on the process for reviewing the post-exercise assessments. The Navy is also offering the public the opportunity to discuss the implementation of these alternative arrangements. Input on reviewing the post-exercise assessments and any requests to meet with Navy and CEQ representatives about the alternative arrangements may be submitted by contacting Mr. Alex Stone at (619) 545-8128 or in writing to:

Naval Air Station North Island
Attn: Alex Stone, CPF Environmental
McCain Emulevard, Building 678, Room 218.
San Diego, CA 92135

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