AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 2, 2017 AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 29, 2017

SENATE BILL

No. 402

Introduced by Senator Allen

February 15, 2017

An act to add Section 1701 to the Fish and Game Code, relating to fisheries.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 402, as amended, Allen. Marine fisheries: state policy.

Existing law declares that it is the policy of the state that the Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Fish and Game Commission seek to create, foster, and actively participate in effective partnerships and collaboration with other agencies and stakeholders to achieve shared goals and to better integrate fish and wildlife resource conservation and management with the natural resource management responsibilities of other agencies. Existing law declares various state policies with regard to the management of fishery resources, including the policy to ensure the conservation, sustainable use, and, where feasible, restoration of California's marine living resources for the benefit of all citizens of the state.

This bill would declare that it is the policy of the state to robustly protect and enhance the significant economic, environmental, recreational, aesthetic, and educational values provided by the Pacific fisheries and would require—all state agencies the department and commission to consider this policy when revising, adopting, or establishing policies, regulations, expenditures, or grant criteria relating to the protection and management of marine fisheries. The bill would require the state, department and commission, to the extent feasible, to

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attempt to work collaboratively with the federal government and all fisheries stakeholders in furtherance of this policy.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

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

SECTION 1. Section 1701 is added to the Fish and Game Code, 2 to read:

3 1701. It is the policy of the state to robustly protect and enhance the significant economic, environmental, recreational, aesthetic, and educational values provided by the Pacific fisheries. All state agencies, including, but not limited to, the Natural Resources Agency and its departments, boards, and commissions, including the Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Fish and Game 9 Commission, The department and commission shall consider this 10 policy when revising, adopting, or establishing policies, regulations, expenditures, or grant criteria relating to the protection 11 12 and management of marine fisheries. To the extent feasible, the state department and commission shall attempt to work 13 14 collaboratively with the federal government and all fisheries 15 stakeholders, including, but not limited to, commercial and 16 recreational fishermen, academic and government scientists, coastal 17 managers, nongovernmental organizations, and tribal governments 18 in furtherance of this policy. However, to the extent necessary, agencies tasked with managing California's fish and wildlife 19 resources shall maintain, and not hesitate to exercise, the 20 21 department and commission shall maintain and exercise the full 22 power of their statutory and regulatory authority in furtherance of 23 this policy.