

## CONCURRENCE IN SENATE AMENDMENTS

CSA1 Bill Id:AB 1417 Author:(Stefani)

As Amended Ver:September 5, 2025

2/3 vote

**SUMMARY**

Authorizes the California Energy Commission (CEC) to allocate funds from the Voluntary Offshore Wind and Coastal Resources Protection Program (Program) for capacity funding activities and grants within local and tribal communities and includes reporting requirements for the CEC, offshore wind (OSW) entities, and eligible entities receiving donations from OSW entities.

**Senate Amendments**

Made substantive changes, that were all rescinded with subsequent amendments; therefore, the bill is the same as it was approved by the Assembly on June 4.

**COMMENTS**

There are five existing offshore wind leases in California: two in northern California off Humboldt County, and three in Central California near Morro Bay. Tribes are seeking a direct role in the decision-making process throughout the planning, permitting, operation, and decommissioning of offshore wind operations and associated infrastructure for offshore wind development. The CEC's OSW strategic plan identifies and proposes strategies for potential impacts to Native American and Indigenous peoples.

The Program is an existing grant program at the CEC that supports state activities that complement and are in furtherance of federal laws related to the development of OSW facilities. Current law requires the Program to provide grants to public and private entities, including state agencies, tribal entities, local governmental agencies, research institutions, and nonprofit entities. The CEC may accept federal and private sector money for the Program; the Voluntary Fund is funded with federal dollars, and the Private Donations Account within the Voluntary Fund may accept private donations. According to the CEC, no donations or other deposits have been made into the Voluntary Fund or the Private Donations Account and the balance of each is \$0.

**According to the Author**

California is leading the charge on clean energy and offshore wind is key to our renewable future—but we must ensure the benefits reach the communities most impacted. AB 1417 creates a dedicated statewide fund at the California Energy Commission, empowering local communities, tribes, and nonprofits to actively shape offshore wind development. This bill drives environmental justice, economic opportunity, and a more equitable transition to clean power—ensuring those on the frontlines have a voice in the process. By investing in a responsible and inclusive transition, we maximize benefits while minimizing harm. This is about smart, sustainable growth that protects our coast, uplifts communities, and secures California's clean energy future.

**Arguments in Support**

A coalition of environmental groups writes that capacity building and technical support is especially needed for underserved communities and Tribal Nations to ensure their voices are captured in OSW development. AB 1417 creates a state-wide mechanism to encourage and track

offshore wind capacity building investments. Specifically, the bill requires offshore wind developers to report contributions they make to local communities and Tribal Nations for this purpose to the CEC. The agency will then make this information publicly available. This will facilitate improved transparency around capacity building investments, and ideally encourage greater contributions.

### **Arguments in Opposition**

American Clean Power writes that the OSW industry is facing significant federal uncertainty from the President Trump Administration. They explain, "While President Trump's recent Executive Action—which puts project permitting, leases, and even existing approvals at risk—is not expected to significantly compromise offshore wind projects in California long term, it is harming the offshore wind market nationwide by creating uncertainty and risk that is evolving on a weekly basis. AB 1417 exacerbates this uncertainty by adding requirements at a time when the offshore wind industry needs state partnership and support to help deliver its clean energy and job creation goals."

### **FISCAL COMMENTS**

According to the Senate Appropriations Committee, the CEC estimates ongoing costs of about \$241,000 annually (Energy Resources Programs Account or other fund) for one position to conduct workshops and listening sessions specific to the issues identified in this bill to maintain up-to-date guidelines and inform potential funding opportunities. The CEC notes it did not receive any positions for the underlying Program and the work to support the development and implementation of the Program is currently being absorbed by existing resources, which are funded only temporarily.

Cost pressure of an unknown but potentially significant amount to fund capacity funding activities and grants within local communities and tribal communities (various funds).

### **VOTES:**

#### **ASM NATURAL RESOURCES: 10-4-0**

**YES:** Bryan, Connolly, Garcia, Haney, Kalra, Muratsuchi, Pellerin, Schultz, Wicks, Zbur

**NO:** Alanis, Ellis, Flora, Hoover

#### **ASM UTILITIES AND ENERGY: 17-0-1**

**YES:** Petrie-Norris, Patterson, Boerner, Calderon, Chen, Davies, Fong, Mark González, Harabedian, Hart, Irwin, Papan, Rogers, Schiavo, Solache, Wallis, Zbur

**ABS, ABST OR NV:** Ta

#### **ASM APPROPRIATIONS: 13-0-2**

**YES:** Wicks, Arambula, Calderon, Caloza, Elhawary, Fong, Mark González, Hart, Pacheco, Pellerin, Solache, Ta, Tangipa

**ABS, ABST OR NV:** Sanchez, Dixon

#### **ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 77-1-1**

**YES:** Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson,

Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

**NO:** Flora

**ABS, ABST OR NV:** Sanchez

## **UPDATED**

VERSION: September 5, 2025

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