



Los Angeles Rod and Reel Club

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Assembly Member Bill Quirk

Chair, Assembly Environmental Safety & Toxic Materials Committee Sacramento, CA
958 14

March 19, 2018

RE: AB2787

Assembly Member Quirk:

The Los Angeles Rod and Reel Club directors and members oppose AB2782. We have reviewed AB2787 and research regarding this bill's effort to ban all lead weights and sinkers 50 grams (1.75 ounces) or less. AB2787 will have a devastating impact on fishing participation rates, outdoor tourism, sales and jobs.

Currently, there is no significant evidence that lead weights threaten wildlife populations in California, specifically. Isolated incidences in California do not suggest a significant risk or justification for a statewide ban.

This will harm fishing participation rates by driving up the cost of fishing tackle 2-3 times or more. Moreover, this undermines the intent of the bill. As fishing license sales decline, there will be less revenue for state conservation and habitat programs that protect wildlife and keep our water pristine (annual license sales have declined 55% since 1980).

The economic activity dependent on outdoor tourism and recreational fishing will be harmed (CA: \$4.6 billion a year). Many American tackle manufacturers and mom and pop tackle shops will be forced out of business.

Sincerely,

Michael Hartt
President
Los Angeles Rod and Reel Club