



PEGGY LEMONS
Mayor

BRENDA OLMOS
Vice Mayor

ISABEL AGUAYO
Councilmember

ANNETTE C. DELGADILLO
Councilmember

VILMA CUELLAR STALLINGS
Councilmember

May 16, 2025

The Honorable Buffy Wicks
Chair, California Assembly Committee on Appropriations
1021 O Street, Room 8220
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 888 (Calderon) California Safe Homes Grant Program.
Notice of SUPPORT *(As Amended April 22, 2025)*

Dear Assemblymember Wicks,

The City of Paramount is pleased to support **AB 888**, which would establish a grant program within the California Department of Insurance to fund wildfire prevention efforts for homes to replace roofs, comply with Zone Zero defensible space regulations, and conduct other mitigation efforts.

California has the highest wildfire risk in the US. In recent years, the state has experienced a growing number of highly destructive wildfires due to climate change and over a century of logging and fire suppression. The devastating impacts of these wildfires have unfortunately resulted in the destruction of over 57,000 structures in the last decade.

The City of Paramount is not traditionally prone to wildfires, but it can leverage these efforts to enhance existing emergency preparedness plans and strengthen overall community safety. Additionally, the City can implement measures focused on fire-resistant structures and property improvements to further mitigate potential risks. By incorporating these strategies, Paramount can proactively address potential environmental hazards and ensure long-term resilience. These efforts also support broader regional initiatives aimed at promoting fire-resistant development and hazard prevention.

AB 888 (Calderon) would establish a grant program within the Department of Insurance to reduce local and state wildfire losses. This bill would require the Department of Insurance to award funds to individuals, cities, counties, and special districts to fund wildfire prevention and mitigation efforts designed to increase the fire resiliency of

communities across the state. These funds are designed to pay for retrofitting homes with fire-safe roofs and clearing an ember-resistant zone of five feet around homes. The bill establishes the Sustainable Insurance Account within the Insurance Fund and would make funds available to the Department of Insurance upon appropriation by the Legislature.

For these reasons, the City of Paramount is pleased to support **AB 888 (Calderon)**. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our City Manager John Moreno at (562) 220-2225. We appreciate your time and consideration.

CITY OF PARAMOUNT

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peggy Lemons". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Peggy" being more prominent than the last name "Lemons".

Peggy Lemons
Mayor

Cc: Honorable Congresswoman Nanette Barragan, 44th District
Honorable State Senator Lena Gonzalez, 33rd District
Honorable Assemblymember Jose Luis Solache, 62nd District
Nicholas Cabeza, Public Affairs Manager, League of California Cities
Jorge Morales, Legislative and Governmental Affairs Consultant, California Contract Cities Association