



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,
Assembly Committee on Appropriations
1021 O Street, Room 8140
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 1 (Connolly) Residential Property Insurance: wildfire risk. Notice of SUPPORT (As Introduced December 2, 2024)

Dear Assemblymember Wicks,

On behalf of the City of Paramount, we are pleased to support AB 1 (Connolly), which would require the California Department of Insurance (CDI) to consider updates to its Safer from Wildfires regulations by January 1, 2030, and every five years thereafter. These updates would include consideration of additional property-level building hardening measures and communitywide wildfire mitigation programs.

Wildfires have become a growing threat to California communities due to climate change and decades of fire suppression. Nearly one in four residential structures in the State are in high or very high fire hazard severity zones. As wildfires increase in both frequency and intensity, the State faces not only escalating risks to life and property but also an insurance crisis marked by reduced coverage availability and soaring premiums.

California has taken significant steps to mitigate wildfire risk, investing billions in forest health, defensible space, and home hardening programs. However, insurance industry models often fail to fully recognize or reward these mitigation efforts, leading to non-renewals, limited coverage options, and higher costs to homeowners – even those who have proactively hardened their homes and participated in local risk-reduction programs.

AB 1 provides a critical step toward addressing this disconnect by requiring the CDI to review and potentially expand its regulations to reflect proven mitigation strategies, including those listed on the State Fire Marshal's Building Materials Listing. These updates will ensure that risk models used by insurers better reflect the actual reduced risk created by local and individual mitigation measures, helping stabilize the insurance market and incentivize continued investment in fire-safe infrastructure.

For these reasons, the City of Paramount supports AB 1 (Connolly). 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, reading "Peggy Lemons". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Peggy" written in a larger, more prominent script 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