

**REGULAR MEETING
LEGISLATIVE ACTION COMMITTEE**

North Bay Conference Room (Room 145)
Sunnyvale City Hall
456 W. Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086

**APRIL 9, 2026
5:30 PM**



Meeting Information:

- *Legislative Action Committee meetings are open to the public at the location shown above.*
 - *Members of the public may use the information below to join the webinar:*
 - **Webinar ID: 823 1430 2917**
 - **Passcode: 254352**
 - *Meeting also livestreamed on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@citiesassoc>*
 - *More information on public comment and accessibility is given at the end of the agenda.*
-

Hon. George Casey will attend via teleconference from 200 E. Santa Clara Street, Floor 18, Conference Room 1853, San Jose, CA 95113. This teleconference location is open to the public and any member of the public may address the Legislative Action Committee members from the teleconference location.

Councilmember Ellen Kamei will attend via teleconference from Lobby, Courtyard by Marriott Paso Robles 120 S Vine St, Paso Robles, CA 93446, United States. This teleconference location is open to the public and any member of the public may address the Board of Directors members from the teleconference location.

Vice Mayor Larry Lang will attend via teleconference from Neutra House Conference Center, Los Altos Civic Center, 181 Hillview Avenue, Los Altos, CA 94022. This teleconference location is open to the public and any member of the public may address the Legislative Action Committee members from the teleconference location.

WELCOME & CALL TO ORDER – (CHAIR)

ROLL CALL (SIRKAY)

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC ON NONAGENDIZED ITEMS

This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons wishing to address the Legislative Action Committee on any matter not on the agenda but within the Committee's jurisdiction. State law prohibits the Legislative Action Committee from discussing and/or acting on nonagendized items.

AGENDA

1. Consent Agenda (Action)

Recommendation: Review and approve minutes of the Legislative Action Committee Meeting held on February 12, 2026

Attachment:

- a. Minutes from February 12, 2026 Legislative Action Committee meeting

2. Chair Update (Information)

Recommendation: Receive update from Chair

3. Early Bill Review (Discussion and Potential Action)

Recommendation: Share early bills and discuss any potential action to recommend to the Board of Directors.

Attachments: Included are bill summaries, letters of support and other supporting documentation as available for the following bills:

- a. SB 1013 (Cervantes): Automated license plate recognition systems
- b. SB 1159 (Cabaldon): Artificial intelligence: transparency and governance
- c. AB 1761 (Rogers): Electricity: calculation methodology: data disclosure
- d. AB 2517 (Calderon): Fire safety: fire hazard severity zones
- e. SB 894 (Allen): Wildfire resiliency: financial assistance
- f. SB 899 (Grove): Fire prevention: Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force: wildfire smoke
- g. SB 949 (Becker): Environmental protection: Natural Resources Agency: resource of statewide

4. Propose Bills to Consider for Discussion at Next Legislative Action Committee Meeting (Action)

ADJOURN (CHAIR)

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION OPTIONS

Online Participation:

Members of the public may also attend online. However, the Cities Association of Santa Clara County cannot guarantee uninterrupted access to online technology. Technical difficulties may occur from time to time. The meeting will continue even if technical difficulties prevent online participation.

Members of the public wishing to comment on an item on the agenda may do so in the following ways:

1. Email comments to shali@citiesassociation.org
 - IMPORTANT: identify the Agenda Item number in the subject line of your email.
 - Emails must be received at least 72 hours before meeting start day/time to be entered into the record for the meeting.
2. Provide oral public comments in-person during the meeting
3. Provide oral public comments virtually during the meeting
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 - Phone participants:
 - *6 - Toggle mute/unmute
 - *9 - Raise hand

ACCESSIBILITY

We strive for our meetings and materials to be accessible to all members of the public, and welcome feedback and requests for accommodations. Please submit requests for accommodations to shali@citiesassociation.org at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting to allow us to best meet your request.



**REGULAR MEETING
LEGISLATIVE ACTION COMMITTEE**

North Bay Conference Room (Room 145)
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**FEBRUARY 12, 2026
5:30 PM**

AGENDA IN BLACK/ MINUTES IN RED

Meeting Information:

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Vice Mayor Larry Lang will attend via teleconference from 97 Hillview Ave, Manzanita Room, Los Altos, CA 94024. This teleconference location is open to the public and any member of the public may address the Board of Directors members from the teleconference location.

WELCOME & CALL TO ORDER – (SCOZZOLA)

Meeting called to order at 5:34 PM

ROLL CALL (SIRKAY)

Board Members Present (13):

Campbell	Elliot Scozzola
Cupertino	Liang Chao*
Gilroy	Kelly Ramirez
Los Altos Hills	Rajiv Bhateja
Los Gatos	Rob Moore (5:49 PM – 6:15 PM)
Los Gatos	Maria Ristow (arrived 6:15 PM)
Milpitas	Carmen Montano
Monte Sereno	Ken Toren
Morgan Hill	Mark Turner
Mountain View	Ellen Kamei (arrived 6:03 PM)
Palo Alto	Vicki Veenker (arrived 5:51 PM)
Santa Clara	Kelly Cox
Saratoga	Tina Walia
Sunnyvale	Alyssa Cisneros*

*Alternate

Board Members Absent: (2)

Los Altos	Larry Lang
San Jose	George Casey

Also Present (1):

Shali Sirkay	Executive Director
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Members of the Public Present (5):

Patrick Ahrens	Assemblymember, AD 26
J.R. Fruen	Councilmember, Cupertino
Dan Furtado	Mayor, Campbell
“Los Altos”	Online
Victoria Low	Asm. Patrick Ahrens Office

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None

AGENDA

1. Consent Agenda (Scozzola)

- a. Approve Minutes from Legislative Action Committee Meeting held on January 22, 2026

Motion to approve the consent agenda as presented

By Turner

Second by Bhateja

AYES: 10

NAYS: 0

ABSTENTIONS: 0

ABSENT: 5 (Casey, Lang, E. Kamei, Ristow, Veenker)

Motion passes 10-0-0-5

2. Guest Speakers (Scozzola)

- a. c Patrick Ahrens

3. Discussion of Newly Enacted Legislation (Scozzola)

- a. SB 627 "No Secret Police Act"

4. Status of Bills Considered by Legislative Action Committee in 2025 (Scozzola)

5. Future Bills/Legislation to Consider (All)

- a. California Healthy Food For All Fund, proposed by Assemblymember Alex Lee

ADJOURN (SCOZZOLA)

Meeting adjourned at 6:36 PM.

Respectfully submitted on April 9, 2026,



Vaishali Sirkay

Executive Director

Cities Association of Santa Clara County

PUBLIC COMMENT

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SB 1013 (Cervantes): Automated license plate recognition systems

Existing law prohibits a public agency, which includes the state, a city, a county, a city and county, or any agency or political subdivision of the state, a city, a county, or a city and county, including, but not limited to, a law enforcement agency, from selling, sharing, or transferring automated license plate recognition (ALPR) information, except to another public agency, and only as otherwise permitted by law.

Existing law defines ALPR information as information or data collected through the use of an ALPR system.

This bill would provide that “public agency” does not include a transportation agency, a public transit operator, or a local department of transportation or public works department, as specified. The bill would, beginning January 1, 2027, require new, updated, expansions of, or addendums of contractual agreements with ALPR vendors, manufacturers, or suppliers to mandate that no default access is provided to any national ALPR database and that an agency’s collected scans are by default not accessible to any other agency, and would impose new requirements on sharing between California state law enforcement agencies. The bill would authorize a law enforcement agency to use ALPR information only for purposes of locating vehicles or persons when either are reasonably suspected of being involved in the commission of a public offense.

The bill would prohibit a public agency from retaining ALPR information for more than 30 days after the date of collection if it does not match information on an authorized hot list, as defined, and as of January 1, 2027, would require a public agency to delete all ALPR information that has been held for more than 30 days and does not match information on an authorized hot list within 14 days. By imposing new requirements on public agencies, which include local agencies, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

SB 1159 (Cabaldon): Artificial intelligence: transparency and governance.

This bill **defines a person for the purposes of public processes** including the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act, the Brown Act, Public Records Act, the Political Reform Act, the Administrative Procedure Act, and CEQA, as not artificial intelligence.

Summary: The California Constitution provides that people have the right of access to information concerning the conduct of the people's business. Various provisions of existing law, including the California Public Records Act, the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act, and the Ralph M. Brown Act, provide, with some exceptions, for public access to government records and meetings of government bodies. Among those acts, the California Public Records Act defines "person" to include any natural person, corporation, partnership, limited liability company, firm, or association.

This bill would specify that, for purposes of the California Public Records Act, the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act, the Ralph M. Brown Act, the Political Reform Act of 1974, the Administrative Procedure Act, and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), "person," "interested person," "participant," "member of the public," as applicable, and any other similar terms under each act referring to those who may engage with governmental agencies, do not include artificial intelligence, as defined, systems, autonomous agents, robots, or other nonhuman entities, whether physical or digital. The bill would make findings and declarations related to these provisions.

Supporters of SB 1159 include:

ACT Now Bay Area, Active San Gabriel Valley, Building Decarbonization Coalition, California Association of Nonprofits, California State Association of Counties (CSAC),

CalCities, California YIMBY, CFT – a Union of Educators & Classified Professionals, AFT, AFL-CIO, City of Placentia, City of San Jose, City of Stanton, Climate Action Campaign, League of California Cities, Live Oak United Church of Christ, NRDC, Physicians for Social Responsibility - San Francisco Bay, Rural County Representatives of California, Sierra Club, California Streets for All, Urban Counties of California, USGBC California.

Opponents of SB 1159 include: One individual

March 17, 2026

The Honorable Thomas Umberg
Chair, Senate Judiciary Committee
1021 O Street, Room 3240
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Senate Bill 1159 (Cabaldon) – SUPPORT
As Introduced February 18, 2026**

Dear Chair Umberg:

On behalf of the Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC), California State Association of Counties (CSAC), Urban Counties of California (UCC), and the League of California Cities (Cal Cities) we are pleased to support Senate Bill 1159 (Cabaldon), which would put important safeguards in place to protect the ability of the public to comment on matters before local agencies in an age of quickly evolving Artificial Intelligence (AI) technology.

California's open meeting and open governance laws are intended to not only allow the public to observe deliberations about issues that will affect their communities, but to participate as well. Local agencies accept public comment on matters both on the agenda and off. Technology has been a powerful tool to make public participation more accessible than ever, as agendas and the time and location of public meetings are posted online. Those unable to comment or observe in person are able to follow along online or submit written comments via email or web portal.

However, emerging AI and Large Language Model (LLM) tools have now made it easier than ever for bad actors to misrepresent public opinion in governance decisions. According to reporting from multiple outlets, in June 2025 a political consultant used AI tools to generate twenty thousand emails to the South Coast Air Quality Management District regarding a regulatory proposal before the board.¹ The AI generated emails purported to be from members of the public in South Coast AQMD's jurisdiction, but during an audit by air district staffers many said that they were not aware of signing onto any such messages. In an interview with a trade publication, the political consultant behind the advocacy effort bragged about how the volume "left the South Coast AQMD staff reeling."

Automated engagement tools have the capacity to overwhelm government agencies, crowd out the voices of actual members of the public, and undermine the intent of California's

transparent governance laws. Clarifying how these laws apply in the context of emerging technologies, particularly distinguishing between authentic public input and activity generated at scale by artificial intelligence systems, represents an important step toward protecting meaningful public participation, open governance, and critical staff resources for local agencies. With thoughtful refinement, SB 1159 will help address these challenges in a way that is both effective and implementable as technology continues to evolve quickly.

We appreciate the author's attention to this emerging challenge and the importance of safeguarding meaningful public participation in local governance. As this proposal moves forward, we look forward to working collaboratively with the author and stakeholders to develop amendments that ensure the bill's intent is both clear and effective, while remaining workable and practical for local agencies to implement.

For these reasons, RCRC, UCC, CSAC, and Cal Cities are pleased to support SB 1159. If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,



SARAH DUKETT
Senior Policy Advocate
Rural County Representatives of California
sdukett@rcrcnet.org



ERIC LAWYER
Senior Legislative Advocate
California State Association of Counties
elawyer@counties.org



JOHNNIE PIÑA
Legislative Advocate
League of California Cities
jpina@calcities.org



JEAN HURST
Legislative Representative
Urban Counties of California
jkh@hbeadvocacy.com

cc: The Honorable Chrisopher Cabaldon, Member, California State Senate
Members, Senate Judiciary Committee
Members, Senate Privacy, Digital Technologies, and Consumer Protection Committee
Margie Estrada, Chief Counsel, Senate Judiciary Committee
Christian Kurpiewski, Chief Consultant, Senate Privacy, Digital Technologies, and Consumer Protection Committee
Morgan Branch, Policy Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus

AB 1761 (Rogers): Electricity: calculation methodology: data disclosure.

(Energy Bills Data Transparency)

AB 1761 (Rogers) would **improve data transparency on electricity bills** by requiring the California Public Utilities Commission and Investor Owned Utilities to disclose all the data used to calculate Power Charge Indifference Adjustment (PCIA) fee costs. The PCIA is paid for by Community Choice Aggregator (CCA) customers, but not all of the data used to calculate the costs are shared. Increasing transparency on this fee will help provide more eyes on the fee to make sure it is calculated correctly. This data also helps stakeholders understand the ratepayer impacts of any policy changes to the PCIA.

Summary: Would require the Public Utilities Commission to ensure that all data serving as a basis for any decision or ruling issued by the commission, or in any proposal or analysis provided by commission staff, for the determination or application of a calculation methodology for any charge imposed on customers of a load-serving entity to recover costs associated with contracts, electrical corporation-owned generation, or any other resource or value included in that charge and any other charge derived from those costs, is made available to load-serving entities and ratepayer advocates on behalf of customers. The bill would require the commission to require an electrical corporation or other party, in submitting a proposal or analysis for the determination or application of a calculation methodology for any charge imposed on customers of a load-serving entity to recover costs associated with contracts, electrical corporation-owned generation, or any other resource or value included in that charge and any other charge derived from those costs, to make all data serving as a basis for that proposal or analysis available to load-serving entities and ratepayer advocates on behalf of customers. The bill would require that data to meet specified requirements, including that it is made through a public disclosure, except for market-sensitive data, as provided. (Based on 03/19/2026 text)

Supporters of AB 1761 include: California Community Choice Association (sponsor), 350 Humboldt, Alliance for Retail Energy Markets, California State Association of Counties (CSAC), Central Coast Community Energy, City of Buellton, City of National City, City of Pinole, City of San Jose, City of Seaside, California Climate Action, California Climate Breakthrough, Elders Climate Action (ECA) Northern California (NORCAL) and Southern California (SOCAL) Chapters, City of Goleta, League of California Cities, Marin Clean Energy (MCE), Monterey County Office of Supervisor Luis A. Alejo, Mothers Out Front Silicon Valley, Orange County Power Authority, Peninsula Clean Energy, Pioneer Community Energy, Redwood Coast Energy Authority, Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC), San Diego Community Power San Jose Community Energy Advocates, Silicon Valley Clean Energy, Sonoma Clean Power, The Climate Center, The Climate Reality Project: Silicon Valley, The Office of San Diego County Supervisor Terra Lawson, and Town of Hillsborough, CalCities.

Opponents of AB 1761 include: Edison International and Affiliates, Southern California Edison, San Diego Gas and Electric Company



March 9, 2026

The Honorable Cottie Petrie-Norris
Chair, Assembly Utilities and Energy Committee
1020 N Street, Suite 121
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 1761 (Rogers) Electricity: calculation methodology: data disclosure.
Notice of SUPPORT *(As Introduced on February 9, 2026)*

Dear Chair Petrie-Norris,

The League of California Cities (Cal Cities) is pleased to **support AB 1761 (Rogers)**, which would improve the transparency in how the power charge indifference adjustment (PCIA) is calculated on energy bills.

Over 220 cities and counties throughout California are actively participating in Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) to meet the state's climate action goals and provide residents and businesses with clean energy options. Communities can join together through the formation of CCAs to pool their electricity load in order to purchase clean energy and develop local efficiency projects and programs on behalf of their residents and businesses. CCAs work in partnership with the region's existing Investor-Owned Utility (IOU), which continues to deliver power and maintain the grid, while the CCA retains local autonomy to procure clean renewable energy resources.

To help ensure customers receive energy bills that are fair and accurate, AB 1761 would increase transparency in how PCIA charges are calculated. The PCIA is a fee designed to ensure customers who leave utility generation service, like customers of a CCA, pay their portion of legacy power costs. Since the PCIA was implemented, there has been no consistent standard for what data must be made available in any California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) process or proceeding when the PCIA is set. AB 1761 would ensure that all data that is used to calculate the PCIA costs is disclosed, including cost inputs, forecasting, and assumptions, and methodologies.

Cal Cities supports the role of CCAs that increase local decision-making over the purchase and development of clean renewable energy resources, as an effective means of increasing consumer access to renewable energy at stable, competitive rates, and decreasing statewide greenhouse gas emissions. We support the need for transparency of energy procurement practices to support fair competition in statewide energy markets for CCAs and to protect CCA customers from improper cost allocation.

For these reasons, Cal Cities **support** AB 1761 (Rogers) and respectfully requests your 'AYE' vote when the bill is heard in committee. If you have any questions, please contact Melissa Sparks-Kranz (Cal Cities) at msparkskranz@calcities.org.

Sincerely,



Melissa Sparks-Kranz
Legislative Advocate

cc: The Honorable Assemblymember Chris Rogers
Members, Assembly Utilities and Energy Committee

AB 2517 (Calderon) Fire safety: fire hazard severity zones

Existing law requires the State Fire Marshal to identify areas in the state that are not state responsibility areas, commonly known as local responsibility areas, as moderate, high, and very high fire hazard severity zones based on consistent statewide criteria and based on the severity of fire hazard that is expected to prevail in those areas.

Existing law requires the State Fire Marshal to periodically review and make recommendations relative to very high fire hazard severity zones within local responsibility areas. Under current law, this review is required to coincide with review of state responsibility area lands every 5 years and, when possible, fall within the timeframes for each county's general plan update. Existing law requires a local agency to designate, by ordinance, moderate, high, and very high fire hazard severity zones in its jurisdiction within 120 days of receiving the recommendations from the State Fire Marshal.

Existing law authorizes a local agency to, at its discretion, include areas within its jurisdiction not identified as very high fire hazard severity zones by the State Fire Marshal as very high fire hazard severity zones and areas not identified as moderate and high fire hazard severity zones by the State Fire Marshal as moderate and high fire hazard severity zones. Under existing law, a local agency is required to transmit a copy of an adopted ordinance to the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection within 30 days of adoption. Existing law provides that changes made by a local agency to the recommendations made by the State Fire Marshal are final.

This bill would require the State Fire Marshal to, no fewer than 180 days before finalizing the designation of local responsibility areas as moderate, high, and very high fire hazard severity zones, post specified information on its public internet website, conduct regional public workshops to receive oral public comments and consider those comments, host a 30-day public comment period to receive written comments from interested stakeholders and respond to all written comments by local agencies within 30 days of the end of the public comment period, and coordinate with other state agencies to help educate the public during the public workshops, as specified.

The bill would also require, on or before January 1, 2030, and every 5 years thereafter, the State Fire Marshal to review the local responsibility area lands designated as moderate, high, and very high fire hazard severity zones and to recommend changes.

The bill would no longer require this review to, when possible, fall within the timeframes for each county's general plan update. The bill would authorize a local agency to, at its discretion, increase the level of fire hazard severity applicable to a parcel in its jurisdiction if a parcel contains 2 or more designations, so that the higher level of fire hazard severity would apply to the entire parcel. The bill would require the State Fire Marshal to publish within 60 days the local ordinance transmitted to the board, as described above, on its internet website.

CalCities Sponsor

February 23, 2026

The Honorable Lisa Calderon
Member, California State Assembly
1021 O Street, Suite 4650
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 2517 (Calderon) Fire Hazard Severity Zones.
Notice of SPONSOR AND SUPPORT *(As Introduced on February 20, 2026)*

Dear Assemblymember Calderon,

The League of California Cities (Cal Cities) is pleased to **sponsor** and **support** AB 2517, which would improve the Fire Hazard Severity Zone (FHSZ) designation process by ensuring consistent updates to the FHSZ maps and establishing a more transparent, publicly accessible process for developing and releasing these critical designations.

Under current law, fire hazard severity zone designations are applied in both the state responsibility areas and local responsibility areas to provide the state's best available science related to what environmental conditions, such as slope, vegetation, and wind patterns, can spread a wildfire. The LRA FHSZ designations are only required to be periodically re-reviewed every five years and statute does not require a comprehensive update to the designations. Prior to the most recent release earlier in 2025, the LRA FHSZ maps had not been updated since between 2007 and 2009. With the 2025 map release, important concerns were raised to the State Fire Marshal, including the accuracy of land use information, including split parcels with multiple designations and the classification of developed areas such as parking lots and bodies of water as very high fire hazard severity zones. These issues create practical challenges for cities who are required to adopt these maps by ordinance and host public comment locally without any ability to respond to the public concerns regarding the model and data.

AB 2517 would address these concerns by clarifying how and when the FHSZ maps are updated, specifically how the public can engage meaningfully in the process. The bill would establish a five-year update cycle for the LRA FHSZ maps, require a preliminary public release of the maps, mandate disclosure of the data, models, and methodology used to develop the designations, and provide opportunities for regional workshops and public comment before maps are transmitted to the local agency for local ordinance adoption.

For these reasons, Cal Cities **supports** AB 2517 (Calderon) and is pleased to **sponsor** the bill. If you have any questions, please contact Legislative Advocate Melissa Sparks-Kranz at msparkskranz@calcities.org at 916-658-8232.

Sincerely,



Melissa Sparks-Kranz
Legislative Advocate
League of California Cities



Cal Cities Action Alert

Support AB 2517 (Calderon) Fire Hazard Severity Zone Maps

Action Requested: Submit a letter of **support** for AB 2517 (Calderon), a Cal Cities-sponsored bill that would improve the Fire Hazard Severity Zone (FHSZ) designation process conducted by the Office of the State Fire Marshal. It would do this by ensuring consistent and timely updates to the local responsibility area FHSZ maps. AB 2517 is awaiting a committee assignment and will be heard this spring.

What the Bill Does: AB 2517 would clarify that this process happens every five years and would require the State Fire Marshal to provide a preliminary release of the maps with a public comment period and regional workshops. This improved process would allow local governments and the public the opportunity to better understand the designations. Additionally, the bill would require the state to make the data and methodology for the fire hazard model publicly available, which increases transparency and understanding of the environmental conditions that may cause hazard.

Why this is Important to Cal Cities Members: Under current law, FHSZ designations in local responsibility areas must be "periodically" reviewed by the State Fire Marshal. This vague timeline often leaves local governments without the scientific data they need to fully understand which areas are at greatest risk for fires. These designations correlate with defensible space and home hardening requirements and are critical for ensuring communities can mitigate wildfires.

Additional Background: Fire hazard maps identify environmental conditions — including slope, vegetation, wind patterns, and others — that can spread wildfires. Local jurisdictions are already required under existing state law to adopt ordinances with the FHSZ designations within 120 days of receiving them from the State Fire Marshal. This bill would improve the process preceding the transmittal of the maps.

Links and Attachments: Cal Cities support [letter](#). Sample city support [letter](#).

Where to Send Letter: See sample letter for legislative portal link. Send copy to cityletters@calcities.org and **RPAM email**.

Questions? Please contact **your RPAM** or Legislative Advocate Melissa Sparks-Kranz, msparkskranz@calcities.org

SB 894 (Allen): Wildfire resiliency: financial assistance

This bill would establish the California Wildfire Resilience Loan Program and would require the California Alternative Energy and Advanced Transportation Financing Authority to administer the program to provide financial assistance for projects and activities to reduce wildfire-related risks and losses including home hardening and defensible space improvements, as provided, and would make related changes.

The bill is set for its first policy committee hearing on April 7.

Summary: Existing law requires the Office of Emergency Services to enter into a joint powers agreement, as specified, with the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection to develop and administer a comprehensive wildfire mitigation program, that, among other things, encourages cost-effective structure hardening and retrofitting that creates fire-resistant homes, businesses, and public buildings.

Existing law establishes the California Alternative Energy and Advanced Transportation Financing Authority to provide alternative methods of financing in providing and promoting the establishment of facilities using alternative methods and sources of energy and facilities needed for the development and commercialization of advanced transportation technologies, as provided.

SB 899 (Grove): Fire prevention: Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force: wildfire smoke

This bill would require the Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force to assess the health costs and impacts of wildfire smoke, and to develop a model to determine the health benefits of achieving the goals of the Wildfire and Forest Resilience Action Plan.

Summary: Existing law requires the Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force to develop a comprehensive implementation strategy to track and ensure the achievement of the goals and key actions identified in the state’s “Wildfire and Forest Resilience Action Plan,” as provided. Existing law requires, on or before March 1, 2026, and every 5 years thereafter, the task force to update the action plan.

This bill would require the task force, on or before July 1, 2028, and in cooperation with the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment and the State Department of Public Health, to assess the health costs and impacts of wildfire smoke using existing wildfire smoke and health data, as provided. The bill would require the task force, in developing this assessment, to, among other things, develop a model to determine the approximate health benefits of achieving the goals identified in the action plan and make recommendations on how the action plan can increase its health benefits. (Based on 03/18/2026 text)

CalCities Support

NOTE – The Legislature has a new letter submission process that requires **ALL LETTERS TO BE UPLOADED INTO A NEW ELECTRONIC PORTAL**. The portal will automatically send letters to the author's office and the committee(s) of jurisdiction. Please visit <https://calegislation.lc.ca.gov/advocates/> to create an account and upload this letter. If you are having difficulty accessing the portal, please contact Meg at our office mdesmond@calcities.org.

In addition to submitting the letter through the portal, please send a physical copy to your Legislator(s), and continue to send a copy by email to your Regional Public Affairs Manager, and **the League's city letter account (cityletters@cacities.org)**. Please send your letters as a text enabled document.

CITY LETTERHEAD

DATE

The Honorable Josh Becker
Chair, Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee
1021 O Street, Suite 3220
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 899 (Grove) Wildfire Smoke Health Assessment.
Notice of SUPPORT (As Amended on February 2, 2026)

Dear Chair Becker,

The City/Town of _____ is pleased to **support** SB 899 (Grove), which would require the Governor's Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force to develop a comprehensive wildfire smoke health assessment. This assessment would help address the public health impacts of wildfire smoke and better align California's public health and wildfire resilience strategies.

Over the past several years, wildfires in California have increased in both scale and intensity. While many communities have experienced the direct devastation of wildfire, cities across the state are also facing prolonged periods of hazardous air quality, as a results of wildfire smoke traveling hundreds of miles infiltrating communities outside of wildfire burn scar areas. In these events, local governments are faced with responding to their communities impacted by smoke, including providing protections for vulnerable residents, and communicating potential health risks, yet the scope of public health consequences are not fully understood.

Without a comprehensive statewide understanding of the health impacts of wildfire smoke, local governments and state policymakers lack critical information needed to guide investments in wildfire resilience and public health protection.

SB 899 would help fill this information gap by directing the state to conduct a comprehensive assessment of wildfire smoke health impacts. Improved data would

support more informed decision-making at both the state and local levels and help ensure that wildfire response and resilience strategies consider the full scope of health impacts affecting California communities.

For cities across California, including the City of [City Name], a clearer understanding of wildfire smoke's health impacts is essential to protecting residents and strengthening statewide wildfire resilience efforts.

PLEASE CITE SPECIFIC REASONS OF HOW YOUR CITY WILL BE AFFECTED BY THIS BILL.

For these reasons, the City/Town of _____ is pleased to support SB 899 (Grove) and urges your "Aye" vote when the bill is heard in committee.

Sincerely,

NAME

TITLE

CITY/TOWN of _____

cc. Your Senator & Assembly Member
Your League Regional Public Affairs Manager (via email)
League of California Cities, cityletters@cacities.org

SB 949 (Becker) Environmental protection: Natural Resources Agency: resource of statewide significance: Santa Cruz Mountains

Existing law establishes the Natural Resources Agency, composed of departments, boards, conservancies, and commissions responsible for the restoration, protection, and management of the state's natural and cultural resources. This bill would designate the Santa Cruz Mountains, as defined, as a resource of statewide significance that requires special protection, as defined. The bill would require the Natural Resources Agency and its boards, departments, and conservancies, to the extent that resources are available, and when appropriate, to encourage collaborative stewardship approaches that support the protection, restoration, and preservation of the Santa Cruz Mountains, among other things.