Fiscal Fire-Related Legislative Requests

Proposal Backfill the loss of property taxes (to the 2017 assessment level prior to fires), transient occupancy taxes, and sales taxes. Backfill the amount that lost homes would have contributed in property taxes to the debt service of local schools and districts at their 2017 assessed values. Waive local cost share of debris clean up. Prioritize SB 2 funds currently retained by the California Department of Housing and Community Development for affordable housing investments in fire-impacted counties and cities. Designate Cap and Trade monies for environmental restoration activities and low energy / net-zero energy building subsidies in fire-impacted counties and cities. Expedite payments for county-provided services, whenever possible using estimates (and allowing for eventual true ups) rather than exact costs to help address cash flow problems, e.g. in the areas of mental health, social services, etc. Make bond funding available to fire impacted local governments for watershed remediation, species protection and drinking water supply projects. Fund the development of long-term (5-10 year) comprehensive regional recovery plans that focus on fire prevention, sustainability and resiliency. Provide funding to incentivize rebuilding that meets fire resistant standards. Fund the work of volunteers / non-governmental organizations. Waive mandated local matches related to recovery and / or resiliency. Provide funding for small water districts that must rebuild affected infrastructure. Fund watershed protection. Fund road repair.

Provide funding for fire safe private bridges, road retrofitting/improvements to provide critical emergency exit routes.

Appropriate any available State Responsbility Area funding to fire-ravaged areas.

Provide funding for the removal of burned trees that serve not only as a hazard in creek beds and present future fire hazards but are also a hindrance to recovery and future economic growth of fire-ravaged communities given the massive destruction visible from many roadways and other public areas.