

Policy Fire-Related Legislative Requests

Proposal
Extend the currently established burn zone California Environmental Quality Act exemptions to all fire impacted counties until a specific period of time or goals is met (i.e. 7 years, until x number of units have been built, or 200% of Regional Housing Needs Assessment).
Provide administrative and legislative relief to expedite local projects typically involving State Fish & Game, Water Board, etc.
Fast track expansion of county landfills.
Allow local governments to use a portion of the debris insurance collection for local recovery efforts, subject to state rules for how the funds are to be used.
Facilitate vocational training programs for youth and unemployed adults to work in the various trades and assist in meeting increased construction demand.
Legislate that public health emergency declaration renewals may be every 30 days rather than 14 days.
Streamline / fast track public assistance payments for various county-run programs.
Provide additional assistance in communicating with the federal government especially for areas that have suffered multiple disasters over the last several years.
Create a state ombudsperson to assist local governments and individuals with disaster and recovery questions and needs.
Provide increased technical assistance with disaster preparedness (including hazard mitigation), response, and recovery training.
Provide technical assistance with community planning, including innovative rebuilding ideas.
Change state law on rolling brown outs of power during high wind events.
Ease housing element regulations for fire impacted jurisdictions as currently a certified housing element is required for Community Development Block Grants.
Amend Government Code 65584.01 (G) to read, "The loss of units during a Governor declared emergency that have not been rebuilt or replaced at the time of the data request."
Amend the Mobile Home Park Act so that when two or more spaces are being held out for rent or lease it does not automatically convert that property into a mobile home park.
Work with California Office of Emergency Services to develop a list serve / share point to provide up to the minute information to local governments during disasters.
Coordinate with the University of California Cooperative Extension and Cal Fire to conduct an assessment and create recommendations for fire safe vegetation management on private and public land, and provide competitive grants for counties to implement those recommendations.
Make Community Conservation Corps available to implement defensible space standards.
Provide specific mandated standards for emergency alert systems statewide (along with the funding necessary) to implement those standards.
Establish mandatory requirement that private residential garage doors remain operational at an Americans with Disabilities Act standard during a loss of power.
Change state law mandating insurance companies to provide housing assistance payments for a minimum of 3 years.
Amend state law on increasing the standards and requirements for maintaining fire prevention measures in state parks.
Secure state support of request to Federal Emergency Management Act that fire victims who have not rebuilt within 2 years of insurance coverage receive Federal Emergency Management housing assistance to cover the gap.