

TO: Honorable Lisa Calderon, Chair  
Assembly Insurance Committee  
Members, Assembly Insurance Committee

FROM: Norwood Associates, LLC

DATE: March 28, 2025

RE: AB 1236 (Celeste Rodriguez)--SUPPORT

On behalf of our client, Independent Insurance Agents & Brokers of California (IIABCal) we are writing to offer our Support for the above referenced bill.

Climate change is rapidly transforming California's environmental landscape, creating unprecedented challenges for vulnerable communities. As extreme weather events become more frequent and intense, many households and small businesses find themselves critically underprotected. The current insurance landscape leaves significant gaps: flood insurance remains low even in high-risk areas, while emerging climate threats like heat waves and sea-level rise often lack meaningful coverage.

These protection gaps expose communities to devastating financial risks. When climate-driven disasters strike, many residents and small businesses lack the necessary resources to repair, rebuild, and recover. Without innovative insurance solutions, communities face a stark future of escalating losses, economic instability, and diminished resilience.

AB 1236 offers a transformative approach to addressing these challenges. Drawing from the comprehensive Climate Insurance Report developed by the California Climate Insurance Working Group, the bill introduces pioneering pilot projects designed to reimagine insurance mechanisms. By focusing on community-based insurance, parametric approaches, and nature-based solutions, the legislation aims to create targeted insurance products that protect and empower vulnerable and disadvantaged communities.

The proposed pilot projects represent a critical first step in closing protection gaps, leveraging innovative insurance tools to build local and statewide climate resilience. By prioritizing areas with low insurance uptake and high climate risks, AB 1236 provides a strategic blueprint for adapting to our rapidly changing environmental reality.

For the above stated reason, IIABCal would urge your “AYE” vote on AB 1236. Thank you

Thank you.

cc: Brenda Cisneros-Larios Office of Assemblymember Celeste Rodriguez  
Kathleen O'Malley, Chief Consultant, Assembly Insurance Committee  
Landon Klein, Principal Consultant, Assembly Insurance Committee

Bill Lewis, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus

Brady Borcharding, Deputy Legislative Secretary, Office of the Governor