

TO: Honorable Monique Limon, Chair
Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee
Members, Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee

FROM: Norwood Associates, LLC

DATE: April 11, 2025

RE: SB 326 (Becker)--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.

The devastating impacts of catastrophic wildfires have become an increasingly urgent concern for California communities. While substantial investments are being made by various entities—including over \$10 billion annually from Investor-Owned Utilities alone—there is currently no comprehensive framework to evaluate how these multiple wildfire prevention programs interact or how they can be coordinated to maximize effectiveness and cost-efficiency.

SB 326 addresses a critical gap in wildfire mitigation by establishing a comprehensive and structured planning approach. It proposes the creation of a Wildfire Risk Mitigation Planning Framework to quantify the potential benefits of actions taken by both state and private entities. Additionally, it calls for the development of a Wildfire Risk Baseline and Forecast to assess current statewide wildfire risk and evaluate mitigation potential across various time horizons. To ensure accountability and track progress, the bill also mandates the production of an annual Wildfire Mitigation Scenarios Report, which would document the actual risk reduction contributions from all stakeholders involved.

These measures will ensure that California's significant investments in wildfire prevention are deployed strategically and effectively. By providing a comprehensive view of wildfire mitigation efforts across utility and non-utility actors, SB 326 will help identify gaps, reduce redundancies, and maximize the impact of every dollar spent on wildfire prevention.

For the above stated reason, IIABCal would urge your “AYE” vote on SB 326. Thank you

Thank you.

cc: Leslie Spahn, Office of Senator Josh Becker
Katharine Moore, Chief Consultant, Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee
Genevieve Wong, Principal Consultant, Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee
Edith Hannigan, Consultant, Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee
Todd Moffitt, Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus
Brady Borcharding, Deputy Legislative Secretary, Office of the Governor