



August 30, 2019

To: Members, California Fire Chiefs Association
Members, Fire Districts Association of California

From: Russell Noack, Public Policy Advocates

Re: FIRE Legislative Report – Week Ending August 30, 2019

Legislative Update

Today is the day that the Appropriations Committees in each house determined the fate of several hundred bills with fiscal impact on their respective Suspense Files.

The Senate Appropriations reported the following measures off the Suspense File and sent them to the Senate Floor for further action:

[Assembly Bill 1705 \(Bonta\)](#) – Our sponsored bill to create an intergovernmental transfer program for public Medi-Cal transport providers and exempt them from the QAF.

[Assembly Bill 38 \(Wood\)](#) would provide incentives for homeowners to harden their homes and create defensible spaces in very high fire hazard severity zones. *FIRE POSITION: SUPPORT.*

[Assembly Bill 394 \(Obernolte\)](#) would provide a temporary CEQA exemption for CAL FIRE approved egress route projects. *FIRE POSITION: SUPPORT.*

[Assembly Bill 429 \(Nazarian\)](#) would direct the Seismic Safety Commission to compile an inventory of buildings in specified counties that are vulnerable to earthquake damage. *FIRE POSITION: SUPPORT.*

[Assembly Bill 651 \(Grayson\)](#) would increase Medi-Cal rates and prohibit balance billing for air-ambulance emergency services. *FIRE POSITION: SUPPORT.*

[Assembly Bill 911 \(Rodriguez\)](#) would have OES develop a plan to allow citizens to voluntarily provide health and safety information that would be provided to first responders to assist in EMS calls. *FIRE POSITION: SUPPORT.*

[Assembly Bill 1116 \(Grayson\)](#) would establish a Firefighter Peer Support and Crisis Referral Pilot Program. *FIRE POSITION: SUPPORT.*

[Assembly Bill 1400 \(Kamlager-Dove\)](#) would have the Commission on Health and Safety and Workers' Compensation submit a report on the risk exposure to carcinogens and incidents of cancer for mechanics who work on fire equipment in Los Angeles. *FIRE POSITION: SUPPORT.*

[Assembly Bill 1516 \(Freidman\)](#) would promote activities to encourage defensible space and vegetation management to improve fire safety in communities. *FIRE POSITION: SUPPORT.*

[Assembly Bill 1544 \(Gipson\)](#) would create a Community Paramedicine or Triage to Alternate Destination Act. *FIRE POSITION: SUPPORT.*

[Assembly Bill 720 \(Muratsuchi\)](#) which would have maintained the program for funding community college courses offered through instructional service agreements with public safety agencies was held in committee. *FIRE POSITION: SUPPORT.*

The Assembly Appropriations reported the following measures off the Suspense File and sent them to the Assembly Floor for further action:

[Senate Bill 13 \(Wieckowski\)](#) would broaden the Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) law and eliminates impact fees on ADUs under 750 square feet. *FIRE POSITION: OPPOSE.*

[Senate Bill 182 \(Jackson\)](#) would require cities and counties to make specific findings on fire standards before permitting development in very high fire risk areas. *FIRE POSTION: WATCH.*

[Senate Bill 190 \(Dodd\)](#) would require the State Fire Marshall to develop a Model Defensible Space Program and a Wildfire-Urban Interface Fire Safety Building Standards Compliance Training Manual for use by local government. *FIRE POSTIION: SUPPORT.*

[Senate Bill 209 \(Dodd\)](#) would establish the California Wildfire Warning Center to monitor fire-weather conditions and to assess threats to enhance fire forecasting. *FIRE POSITION: SUPPORT.*

[Senate Bill 247 \(Dodd\)](#) would require CAL FIRE to audit the vegetation management wildfire mitigation programs of electrical corporations. *FIRE POSITION: WATCH.*

[Senate Bill 295 \(McGuire\)](#) was held in Committee. The bill would have provided personal income tax credits for homeowners who harden their property to mitigate fire risk. *FIRE POSITION: SUPPORT.*

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