

California State Senate

SENATOR MIKE MCGUIRE

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA'S SECOND SENATE DISTRICT



Received 02/04/2020
Board of Forestry and Fire Protection -

June 2, 2020

Mr. Matt Dias, Executive Director
State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection
P.O. Box 944246
Sacramento, CA, 94244-2460

Dear Director Dias:

Thank you for all your work with the Board of Forestry. I hope this letter finds you and your family safe and healthy.

As you know, the 2017 and 2018 Wildfires have been some of the largest disaster rebuilding efforts in modern American history. In the aftermath of these fires that ravaged the Golden State, thousands of homes across this state need to be rebuilt in the State Responsibility Area.

I understand the Board of Forestry has been working diligently for months with the County of Sonoma on their Ordinance, and has been going through the process to update their Fire Safe Regulations. These regulations will usher in positive regulatory measures that will assist local communities and fire survivors. You and your staff have put in hundreds of hours of work into ensuring that all sides are considered in these revisions. Regrettably, there have been process related issues which have stalled the ability for all parties to reach agreement. Specifically, stakeholders have believed commitments were made by Board staff in workshops and those commitments didn't end up in the Board's proposed regulations. These items have created confusion and frustration for stakeholders that want to participate in the process.

As the Board moves forward with all stakeholders on revisions to their Fire Safe Regulations, it is important we have a deliberate, methodical, and collaborative process. Stakeholders on all sides of the proposed revisions bring important perspectives that must be considered to ensure a balanced approach that maintains public safety and allows rebuilding to continue.



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We have been going through a similarly thoughtful process in the drafting of legislation in this policy area, including with SB 182 (Jackson) this year, which is currently pending in the State Legislature.

Thank you for your careful attention to this important matter, and please do not hesitate to contact me at 916-651-4002 if you would like to discuss further.

Warmest Regards,



MIKE McGUIRE
Senator

Mr. Dias -
I would be
happy to have
a discussion.
Thank you!