

CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS

455 NORTH REXFORD DRIVE • BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA 90210

Julian A. Gold M.D., Mayor

August 21, 2018

The Honorable Toni Atkins
President pro Tempore, California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 205
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Anthony Rendon
Speaker, California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 219
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Proposal to Change Wildfire Liabilities for Responsible Parties.
City of Beverly Hills – OPPOSE

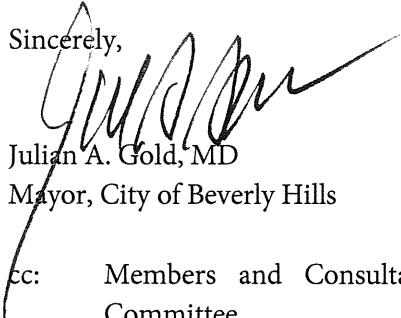
Dear Senate President Pro Tem Atkins and Assembly Speaker Rendon,

On behalf of the City of Beverly Hills, I write to you in respectful **OPPOSITION** to any changes to the liability standards under the legal concept of inverse condemnation currently applied to Investor Owned Utilities (IOUs). It would be unjust to deny those affected by wildfires the ability to recover at least some of their losses under the inverse condemnation liability standard.

As you are aware, the 2017 fire season was one of the worst in the state's history causing billions of dollars in damages. CAL FIRE has determined that at least 12 of these fires were caused by equipment owned and operated by electric utilities. The current liability standard that these utilities are held to will allow individual homeowners and localities affected by the 2017 wildfires to recover losses suffered from fires caused by IOU equipment. Changing this standard would force these localities to shoulder the burden of their own recovery.

For these reasons, the City of Beverly Hills respectfully **OPPOSES** any changes to the liability standard under inverse condemnation that currently applies to utilities. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Julian A. Gold, MD
Mayor, City of Beverly Hills

cc: Members and Consultants, Wildfire Preparedness and Response Legislative Conference Committee
The Honorable Ben Allen, 26th Senate District
The Honorable Richard Bloom, 50th Assembly District
Andrew K. Antwih, Shaw / Yoder / Antwih, Inc.