



917 Irving St.
San Francisco, CA 94112
415.393.9990
www.uphelp.org

March 20, 2026

The Honorable Senator Monique Limón
Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee Chair
1021 O Street, Suite 8518
Sacramento, CA

The Honorable Senator Josh Becker
1021 O Street, Suite 6520
Sacramento, CA
Submitted via Legislative Portal

RE: SB 973 (Becker) – Wildfire County Coordinator Program – Strong Support

Dear Senators Limón and Becker,

I write on behalf of the non-profit organization United Policyholders to convey our strong support for SB 973. This measure will establish the Wildfire County Coordinator Program in statute, supporting county-level coordination of wildfire mitigation, prevention, preparedness, and recovery activities across California.

This bill advances the goal of increasing wildfire risk reduction across the state, which in turn will save homes and help restore a healthier property insurance marketplace. Our non-profit organization is helping advance that goal by coordinating with CalFire, regional fire agencies, public officials, insurance and mitigation professionals and community leaders active with Fire Safe Councils and Firewise Communities.

The County level coordination this bill will facilitate is critical. Through our Roadmap to Preparedness, Wildfire Risk Reduction and Asset Protection initiative and Working Group, we have been convening stakeholders from counties all across the state each month to facilitate the exchange of ideas, programs and strategies for individual and community level risk reduction. Some counties have established programs. All counties need them.

SB 973 requires the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection to enter into an agreement with the California Fire Safe Council to administer the program, providing grants and technical assistance to counties for wildfire risk reduction. Coordinators will develop and implement county wildfire action plans, coordinate with state and local agencies, facilitate community engagement, and support post-fire recovery. The bill is a cornerstone of the 2026 Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force Action Plan and will serve as the critical link between state wildfire strategy and local execution.

We respectfully urge your support for SB 973.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Amy Bach".

Amy Bach, Executive Director
United Policyholders