



CITY OF LAVERNE CITY HALL

3660 "D" Street, La Verne, California 91750-3599
www.cityoflaverne.org

May 13, 2025

Assembly Appropriations Committee
1021 O Street, Suite 8220
Sacramento, CA 95814

Submitted via the Legislative Position Letter Portal

RE: Support to AB 888 (Calderon) California Safe Homes Grant Program.

Dear Honorable Assembly Appropriations Committee Members:

On behalf of the City of La Verne, we express our strong support for Assembly Bill (AB) 888, which establishes the California Safe Homes Grant Program under the Department of Insurance to reduce wildfire losses and improve the insurability and resilience of vulnerable communities.

The majority of La Verne's residents live within areas classified with high fire risk, and northern La Verne directly borders the wildland-urban interface (WUI), which poses a continual threat to life and property. Our region has faced several recent wildfire emergencies, including the Eaton and Palisade fires, as well as the Bridge Fire that occurred just north of the City. These incidents have heightened our awareness of the escalating wildfire danger and the urgent need for proactive mitigation strategies.

Funding support for home hardening is critical to our efforts to safeguard both our residents and community infrastructure. Many of our homeowners face significant financial barriers to undertaking costly but essential upgrades such as fire-resistant roofing and the creation of defensible space in alignment with the Safer from Wildfires regulations. The California Safe Homes Grant Program would provide vital assistance to help our residents and City better prepare for, withstand, and recover from the ever-increasing threat of wildfire.

For these reasons, the City of La Verne strongly urges your support for AB 888. We appreciate your leadership and your recognition of the urgent need to help California communities like ours build resilience and protect lives and property from wildfires.

Sincerely,

Tim Hepburn
Mayor