



To add your name to the signature list,  
email your name & city to  
[frcsfba@gmail.com](mailto:frcsfba@gmail.com)

-or-

Sign our petition: <http://chnng.it/2HkPhFMf>

We are writing to urge **NO on SB 9**, because it is irresponsible about wildfire. **SB 9 threatens lives.**

Many incorporated cities and towns in the Bay Area contain high-hazard areas. SB 9 offers **NO wildfire protection** to such areas, yet it offers an exemption for high-hazard areas in *state responsibility areas*.<sup>1</sup> Wildfire does not respect jurisdictional boundaries. If denser housing is unsafe in state responsibility areas, then it is unsafe in incorporated neighborhoods too.

- **A bill that worsens fire safety in the cities where we live is unacceptable.**

Cities with high-risk areas routinely require defensible space that meets standards like National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1141, which take into account vegetation, terrain, road access, etc. NFPA 1141 calls for 30-foot setbacks, but SB 9 would mandate 4-foot setbacks. That is a recipe for structure-to-structure fire spread.

- **A bill that makes it illegal for cities & towns to enforce fire standards is unacceptable.**

SB 9 has an exemption for *very-high-hazard* in incorporated areas, but offers nothing for *high-hazard* ones – as if wildfire threatens only very-high-hazard areas. That is head-in-the-sand denial. Climate change and fuel buildup are transforming high-hazard areas into very-high-hazard ones. Coffey Park residents understand this. Their neighborhood was obliterated by the Tubbs fire despite not being in a designated fire hazard zone at all – it was simply a mile from one. **Insurance companies understand this, which is why they are cancelling policies in high-risk cities.** As stated by the recent housing study by Next 10 and UC Berkeley: “California last updated its fire risk maps in 2007. Consequently, these maps underrepresent the true extent of wildfire risk.”

- **A bill that treats “high hazard” as “no hazard” is unacceptable.**

Even SB 9’s narrow exemptions are half-hearted, since they are eliminated for “sites that have adopted fire hazard mitigation measures pursuant to existing building standards or state fire mitigation measures.” That, too, is denial. Cal Fire reports that half of the homes built to full Chapter 7A standards were destroyed in the Tubbs and Camp fires. High-hazard areas are dangerous even for homes built to the best standards.

- **A bill that imagines that a location’s fire risk disappears with stucco siding is unacceptable.**

Fire risk should be central to housing planning in the wildland-urban interface. California has sued to stop housing developments in high-hazard areas like Guenoc Valley in Lake County, even though they would follow stringent fire standards. Yet SB 9 would push dense housing into established neighborhoods built to far-looser standards. We need to be making our neighborhoods safer from wildfire, not double-down on the risk.

**Please reject SB 9.**

Thank you

Fire-Risk Communities of the Bay Area (signatures attached)

---

<sup>1</sup> SB 9 (via reference to Section 65913.4) exempts areas that are rated very-high-hazard for wildfire, and it also exempts high-hazard areas within state responsibility areas. Yet SB 9 offers no exemption, or even partial relief, to high-hazard areas that are within local responsibility areas – which means within incorporated cities and towns.

To sign, email your name & city to [frcsfba@gmail.com](mailto:frcsfba@gmail.com), or sign the petition at <http://chnng.it/2HkPhFMf>



<b>Name</b>	<b>Representing</b>	
Carla Woodworth	Berkeley	Council Member, emeritus
Lisa Bruce	Berkeley	President, Berkeley Together
Joan E. Sarnat and David A. Hoffman	Berkeley	
Alyse Ritvo	Berkeley	
David Ritvo	Berkeley	
Margaretta K. Mitchell	Berkeley	
Phyllis Ritvo	Berkeley	
Richard and Penelope Ehrenberger	Berkeley	
Susie Medak	Berkeley	
Brooke Ezzat	Cupertino	
Caryl Gorska	Cupertino	
Danessa Techmanski	Cupertino	
Govind Tatachari	Cupertino	
Joan Lawler Chin	Cupertino	
Liana Crabtree	Cupertino	
Pamela Hershey	Cupertino	
Peggy Griffin	Cupertino	
Sue Moore	Cupertino	
Sue Duncan	El Cerrito	Signing for Make El Cerrito Fire Safe, founded 2018.
Andrew Turner	El Granada	
Brian Overfelt	El Granada	
Valeria and Mark Smetana	Hayward	
Elizabeth & Buck Worthing	Lafayette	
Janice Carr	Los Altos	Fire Commissioner, LAHCFD, emeritus.
Dorothy (Duffy) Price	Los Altos Hills	Fire Commissioner, LAHCFD, emeritus
Jitze Couperus	Los Altos Hills	Fire Commissioner, LAHCFD, emeritus
Michelle Wu	Los Altos Hills	Fire Commissioner, LAHCFD, emeritus; Mayor, emeritus
Sid Hubbard	Los Altos Hills	Fire Commissioner, LAHCFD, emeritus; Mayor, emeritus
George Tyson	Los Altos Hills	Fire Commissioner, LAHCFD; Vice-Mayor, LAH. (Signing as an individual, not for those organizations)
Kavita Tankha	Los Altos Hills	Mayor
John Harpootlian	Los Altos Hills	Mayor, emeritus
April Anair	Los Altos Hills	
Bridget Morgan	Los Altos Hills	
Cameron and Brent Bilger	Los Altos Hills	
Doni Hubbard	Los Altos Hills	
Dr. Nicholas Dunckel	Los Altos Hills	

To sign, email your name & city to [frcsfba@gmail.com](mailto:frcsfba@gmail.com), or sign the petition at <http://chnq.it/2HkPhFMf>



Name	Representing	
Eleanor Caughlan	Los Altos Hills	
Fred Fisher	Los Altos Hills	
Gene C. Woempner	Los Altos Hills	
Jeannette and Pete Foley	Los Altos Hills	
Jocelyn Blum	Los Altos Hills	
Leslie and Wolfgang Stuwe	Los Altos Hills	
Marjorie and Thomas Green	Los Altos Hills	
Mary Kathleen Woempner	Los Altos Hills	
Neal Mielke	Los Altos Hills	
Nicholas Dunckel	Los Altos Hills	
Rhoda and Paul Meade	Los Altos Hills	
Sue Welch	Los Altos Hills	
Murray Woods	Los Gatos	
Sylvia Spirakis-Woods	Los Gatos	
Gary Waldeck	Menlo Park	Fire Commissioner, LAHCFD, emeritus; Mayor (LAH), emeritus
Amy Dunning	Oakland	
Caroline Krewson	Oakland	
Jane Burka	Oakland	
Virginia Sanseau	Oakland	
Stan Weisner	Piedmont	President, Piedmont Pines Neighborhood Association
Karl Kardel	Piedmont	
Jan Soderstrom	Pleasanton	
Michael Moone	Pleasanton	
Amelia A Meffert	Portola Valley	
Andrea Koontz	Portola Valley	
Andrew Thompson	Portola Valley	
Andy Hutchinson	Portola Valley	
Bill Unger	Portola Valley	
Carol and Robert Younge	Portola Valley	
Charles Corley	Portola Valley	
Dale Pfau	Portola Valley	
Daniel Alegria	Portola Valley	
Danna Breen	Portola Valley	
Earl Ratcliff Jr.	Portola Valley	
Edith Collin	Portola Valley	
Geraldine Welch	Portola Valley	
Jessica Reynolds	Portola Valley	
Joan Scott	Portola Valley	
John Thompson	Portola Valley	

To sign, email your name & city to [frcsfba@gmail.com](mailto:frcsfba@gmail.com), or sign the petition at <http://chnq.it/2HkPhFMf>



<b>Name</b>	<b>Representing</b>	
Karen Samuels	Portola Valley	
Karin Eckelmeyer	Portola Valley	
Katherine H Terhune	Portola Valley	
Ken Kormanak	Portola Valley	
Kristi Corley	Portola Valley	
Lana L. Norris	Portola Valley	
Leslie Kraus	Portola Valley	
Mary Hufty	Portola Valley	
Nan Shostak	Portola Valley	
Nancy Lund	Portola Valley	
Rita Comes Whitney	Portola Valley	
Rob Shostak	Portola Valley	
Sylvia Thompson	Portola Valley	
Teresa Godfrey	Portola Valley	
Valerie Baldwin	Portola Valley	
Martin Haerberli	Redwood City	
Sheena V. Williams	Redwood City	
Dave Brown	San Jose (Evergreen)	
Mark Roberts	San Rafael	
Karen Roberts	Santa Rosa	
Albert Fazio	Saratoga	
Paul Sakamoto	Saratoga	
Brian Dombkowski	Woodside	Mayor
Chris Shaw	Woodside	Member, Woodside Town Council
Jody Lawler	Woodside	
Judy Morey	Woodside	
Lori Corley	Woodside	
Mike Corley	Woodside	
Nancy Reyring	Woodside	
Tammy Doukas	Woodside	

To sign, email your name & city to [frcsfba@gmail.com](mailto:frcsfba@gmail.com), or sign the petition at <http://chnq.it/2HkPhFMf>