



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

SEP 29 2026

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am signing Senate Bill 1370, which would provide consolidated state agency review of wildfire mitigation projects to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire, protect communities, and safeguard landscapes.

Following the devastating 2025 Los Angeles fires, I issued a proclamation directing the Natural Resources Agency and the Environmental Protection Agency to consolidate review of wildfire mitigation projects. The process developed under the proclamation ensured certain qualifying projects underwent rigorous environmental review by relevant state agencies within a specified timeframe. The consolidated review process, which expired in May 2026, resulted in approval of over 500 projects to make California safer from wildfire.

This bill codifies a similar process for a subset of wildfire mitigation projects and excludes those that utilize pesticides of any kind. In addition, the bill requires the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection (Board) to establish a certified regulatory program by July 1, 2028, and to engage stakeholders and the public in developing the requirements for the program.

Wildfire risk to our communities is real and growing, and this bill gives the state critical tools to act faster. But I agree with the limitation of expedited review for projects involving pesticide application, and I am directing the Board to work closely with state agencies and stakeholders to balance these critical goals in developing the regulations required by this legislation.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom