



NORTHERN CALIFORNIA YOUTH POLICY COALITION

April 25, 2024

The Honorable Chair Wicks
Assembly Appropriations Committee
1021 O Street, Suite 8220
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 2416 (Connolly) Improving the Safer From Wildfires Program – SUPPORT

Dear Honorable Chair Wicks,

The Northern California Youth Policy Coalition (NCYPC) writes to express our support for AB 2416 by Assemblymember Connolly.

The Northern California Youth Policy Coalition represents youth from over thirty counties across Northern California from the North Coast to the North State to Sacramento. We seek to give a voice to rural youth who feel unheard and a platform to come together to advocate for issues that are most important to our rural youth in Northern California. Our main objective is to ensure that the youth voices of this region are heard on local, regional and state levels, where decisions make a direct impact on our rural communities.

AB 2416 offers strong incentives and support for cost-effective wildfire mitigation in rural California. This bill promotes using non-combustible materials and other strategies to protect rural homes and structures from wildfires. By implementing these measures, rural communities can better withstand and mitigate devastating fire events. The Camp Fire's impact on Northern California students highlights the urgent need for such protection. Furthermore, AB 2416 aims to tackle the challenges faced by numerous California homeowners residing in high-risk fire areas who struggle to obtain fire insurance, which has become increasingly difficult and costly, if available at all.

AB 2416 directly benefits rural youth by bolstering safety through the adoption of effective wildfire prevention measures, enhancing community resilience, and improving accessibility to insurance coverage. By mitigating the long-term impacts of wildfires and fostering youth engagement in community resilience efforts, this legislation plays a pivotal role in promoting stability and prosperity through rural areas, ensuring a safer and more secure environment for youth to live.

For these reasons, the Northern California Youth Policy Coalition urges your support for AB 2416. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Bode Gower
Chair,
Northern California Youth Policy Coalition (NCYPC)

ORGANIZED VOICES FOR RURAL NORTHERN CALIFORNIA YOUTH

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