

General Tips for writing your letter to the Governor:

- 1) Do include any personal thoughts, feelings or experiences on the issue.
- 2) You need to specifically urge the Governor to sign AB 2447 into law
- 3) Sign, date, and include your address
- 4) Send letters to:

*Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, CA 95814*

Here are some ideas to include in your your letter Supporting AB 2447

- Bill Summary - Before approval of new developments in high fire hazard zones, AB 2447 will require counties to determine that:
 - 1) The new subdivision will comply with state fire safety design guidelines;
 - 2) Sufficient fire protection services will be available for the new development;
 - 3) The new subdivision will have a minimum of two roads in and out of the area to ensure safe evacuation in the event of a fire, unless the county makes specific findings that an exception is warranted.
- Saves Lives - AB 2447 will help save lives of residents and firefighters in the future because of improved fire-safety requirements in new developments in fire-prone areas.
- Ensures Safer New Developments - CALFIRE estimates that there was a 20% increase in the number of homes built in the wildland-urban interface during the 1990's. AB2447's common sense planning requirements are long overdue to protect residents in these fast growing new subdivisions.
- Does Not Shut Down Development - Opponents argue that this bill "could virtually shut down any suburban development in certain areas of California". This bill is neither a moratorium nor a prohibition. Rather, it simply and sensibly requires that subdivisions in high fire hazard areas are properly planned for fire safety before they are approved.
- Provides for Safe Ingress and Egress – Requiring two roads in and out of a new subdivision in high fire danger areas is just simple common sense and will avoid another Oakland Hills type tragedy.
- Avoids Future Tragedies - The recent fires are a compelling reminder of the human and property cost of wild fires and the need for better planning of developments in fire-prone areas.
- Will Save Taxpayers money - AB2447 will help to reduce the millions of dollars of State General Funds which are spent each year defending homes and property from wild fires in high fire hazard areas.