



## PACIFIC PALISADES COMMUNITY COUNCIL

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August 26, 2021

The Honorable Gavin Newsom  
Governor of the State of California  
Governor's Office, State Capitol  
Sacramento, California 95814

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**Re: SB 9 (Atkins) and SB 10 (Wiener); REQUEST FOR VETO (serious public safety issue/failure to include unconditional VHFHSZ exemption)**

Dear Governor Newsom:

Pacific Palisades Community Council (PPCC) is the most broad-based organization in Pacific Palisades – a community within the City of Los Angeles, **entirely located in the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone (VHFHSZ)**. PPCC has been the voice of the Palisades community since its founding in 1973.

As we write to you, **California is again on fire and thousands of Californians are fleeing the flames**. Lives and property have already been lost or are at extreme risk. *At the same time*, the California legislature is on the verge of passing housing density bills, SB 9 and 10, which would result in massively increased density (more dwelling units, more people, more cars) in lower density residential zones statewide, but **without sufficiently protecting people living in the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone (VHFHSZ)**. These bills put lives and property in our VHFHSZ areas at significantly greater risk due to increasingly clogged routes of ingress and egress during emergency evacuations. (See PPCC's Policy Statement, previously submitted to state officials about prior density bills and public safety: <http://pacpalicc.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Fire-Hazard-Exemption-Policy.pdf>.)

Our Senator Ben Allen, Assemblymember Richard Bloom and Councilmember Mike Bonin oppose these bills. The Los Angeles City Council has passed resolutions, by nearly unanimous vote, to **oppose both SB 9 and 10** (Council Files 21-0002-S18 and 21-0002-S21). The bills passed only narrowly in the Assembly and according to recent polling, the people of California overwhelmingly oppose SB 9 and 10.

We respectfully request that you consider the risk of harm to life and safety posed by proposed greater density in our VHFHSZ areas, and accordingly **urge your VETO of SB 9 and 10** should the bills reach your desk in this legislative session.

Thank you for your consideration and attention to this critical matter of public safety.

Executive Committee, Pacific Palisades Community Council

David Card, Chair  
David Kaplan, Vice-Chair  
Richard Cohen, Treasurer

Christina Spitz, Secretary  
John Padden, Organization Representative, P.R.I.D.E.  
Joanna Spak, Area 1 Representative (Castellammare, Paseo Miramar)

Pacific Palisades Community Council  
Hon. Gavin Newsom, Governor  
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cc:

Hon. Ben Allen, Senator (SD 26)

Hon. Richard Bloom, Assemblymember (AD 50)

Hon. Nury Martinez, Council President (CD 6)

Hon. Mike Bonin, Councilmember (CD11)

Hon. Paul Koretz, Councilmember (CD 5)

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