



PACIFIC PALISADES COMMUNITY COUNCIL

May 8, 2026

Hon. Gavin Newsom, Governor, State of California
via his Deputy Regional Director, Victor Reyes-Morelos
Hon. Buffy Wicks,, Chair, CA Assembly Appropriations Committee
Hon. Josh Hoover, Vice-Chair, CA Assembly Appropriations Committee
Hon. Jacqui Irwin, State Assemblymember
Hon. Ben Allen, State Senator
Hon. Karen Bass, Mayor, City of Los Angeles
Hon. Traci Park, City Councilwoman, CD 11

Via email to all addressees

Re: OPPOSE UNLESS AMENDED – AB 1795 (Gipson); Assembly Appropriations Committee hearing 5/13/26

Dear Governor Newsom, Chair Wicks, Vice-Chair Hoover, Assemblymember Irwin, Senator Allen, Mayor Bass and Councilwoman Park:

On behalf of Pacific Palisades Community Council (PPCC), the PPCC Executive Committee, as authorized by the PPCC Bylaws, writes to express our opposition to AB 1795 (Gipson) unless substantially amended.

As you know, the Pacific Palisades community suffered massive and unprecedented destruction from the Palisades Fire. Many of the homes that remain standing sustained extensive damage, resulting in unsafe conditions and disputes with insurers as to whether homes are in fact safe to live in. Many Palisades survivors have been fighting delays, denials, and substandard testing practices for nearly 500 days.

We strongly support AB 1462 (Harabedian), which establishes health clearance standards, designates the Dept. of Toxic Substances Control as the lead enforcement agency, and preserves survivors' rights under the Insurance Code, which has guaranteed coverage for smoke damage as a fire loss for more than a century. See: <https://pacpalicc.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/05/PPCC-EC-Letter-AB-1642-Harabedian.pdf>.

In contrast, AB 1795, while purporting to provide for certain consumer protections on paper, includes safety standards for home restoration that require compliance with “accepted trade and industry standards and established technical guidance” set forth in the playbooks of the Institute of Inspection, Cleaning and Restoration Certification and the Restoration Industry Association — guides which the recent Dept. of Insurance “Smoke Claims and Remediation Task Force” acknowledged had significant limitations.

The bill's core problem: it allows insurers to apply surface cleaning methods that have not been shown to remove fire-related contamination, and it gives carriers legal cover to reject scientific evidence of damage. The approach taken by AB 1795 – that is, not to ask whether the home is safe, but rather, “Did the contractor follow the industry checklist?” – serves insurers' interests but puts consumers' health at risk. AB 1795 locks in the insurer conduct currently creating major obstacles to this community's recovery; it is not a substitute for AB 1462.

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We urge the Assembly Appropriations Committee to reject AB 1795 and decline to move the bill forward (*unless it is substantially amended with respect to the health and safety standards for home restoration and preservation of survivors' rights under the Insurance Code*), and instead to pass and move AB 1642 to the Assembly floor for a vote.

Thank you for your assistance and anticipated attention to this important request.

Sincerely,

Sue Kohl, President, on behalf of the Executive Committee
Pacific Palisades Community Council

cc (*via email*):

Nikita Koraddi, Assembly Appropriations Committee Consultant (Environmental Safety/Toxic Materials)
Allegra Kim, Assembly Appropriations Committee Consultant (Insurance/Health)