

**BOARD OF
SUPERVISORS**

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**COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA**

June 22, 2018

The Honorable Assemblymember Tom Daly
Chair, Assembly Committee on Insurance
State Capitol, Room 3120
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: SB 917 (Jackson) Insurance Policies - SUPPORT

Dear Assemblymember Daly:

I am writing on behalf of the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors in order to respectfully request your support for SB 917 (Jackson) which would clarify existing California insurance law by stating that an insurance policy shall cover loss or damage resulting from a mudflow if the mudflow was, itself, caused by another covered peril.

As you know, Santa Barbara County has suffered devastating losses that resulted in hundreds of millions of dollars in property damage, disrupting thousands of lives, businesses and government services due to the Thomas Fire, which was the largest wildfire in California in history. After weeks of wildfires, the Santa Barbara County continued to suffer devastating mudslides, which created tremendous loss resulting in wide spread debris flows, property loss and multiple fatalities.

The Board of Supervisors adopted a 2018 Legislative Platform, which includes a Community Sustainability Principle that directly supports promoting economic stability. Given the coverage of property loss resulting from the recent disasters, economic hardship for our residents and property tax losses to taxing entities such as schools, local governments and special districts including those that provide fire protections, SB 917 is critical for economic stability.

For these reasons, the County is in support of SB 917 (Jackson). If you have questions about the Board's position, please contact the County's Legislative Coordinator, Dennis Bozanich at 805-568-3403 or dbozanich@countyofsb.org.

Sincerely,

Cliff Berg
Legislative Advocate
Governmental Advocates Inc.

CC: Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson, Author
Members, Assembly Committee on Insurance
Mark Rakich, Consultant, Assembly Committee on Insurance
Frank Prewoznik, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus
Assemblymember Jordan Cunningham, 35th Assembly District
Assemblymember Monique Limon, 37th Assembly District
Dennis Bozanich, Legislative Coordinator, County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisor