

Dear Senators,

I live in the area impacted by the Archie Creek fire. Half of my property burned in the fire but I was lucky and lost no buildings. My nearest neighbor lost her home as did many friends. The state has been talking about updating fire response, resiliency, and recovery for quite some time. Now is the moment to do something. I urge you to support SB 762. It is vitally important that we listen to sound science concerning fire behavior and resiliency and climate change when moving forward. There is too much emotion (and profit) laden nonsense out there that must not be followed. We cannot log our way out of this problem as the timber industry proclaims. While forest thinning will help our dry east and southern forests, it will not solve the fire issue in our moist western forests. Our plan for fire resiliency must also include adapting to and mitigating climate change, our forests can be a huge carbon sink if managed properly.

Please move SB 762 forward, we cannot wait for another fire season to go by.

Thank you for your consideration, Karl Konecny