

VINCE FONG

MEMBER FOR THE 32ND ASSEMBLY DISTRICT



FACT SHEET

AB 619 – Nonprofit Flexibility

IN BRIEF

When a State of Emergency is declared, nonprofits who contract with the State do not have the flexibility needed to be able to pivot their programs to handling the crisis event. The State's response to emergency situations is bolstered through its partnership with our nonprofit community leaders. AB 619 will afford nonprofits who have state contracts the ability to modify programs and program budgets to flexibly respond to immediate needs. The State must allow for ongoing payment on contracts during emergencies so that vital services can continue during dire circumstances.

BACKGROUND & ISSUE

California nonprofits are deeply engaged in our communities and provide essential services both independently from the State and through government-contracted projects. Nonprofits are often specialized and employ community members who have experience in the nonprofit's field. They have the potential to assist the state's boots-on-the-ground response to emergency situations, but their contractual budget restrictions with the State often limit their abilities to adequately pivot their resources and programs to fit the needs of an unpredictable situation. Contract modifications can take many months, and nonprofits need to be able to act flexibly to respond appropriately and quickly in emergencies.

Fluidity during a state of emergency is essential. Many times, these emergencies cannot be predicted nor prepared for, and the response requires adaptation from the state and their contracted partners to deftly service the communities they are responsible for. As seen at the beginning of the pandemic, emergencies often required immediate

changes to contracted programs, including modifications to the contract budget, to respond as soon as possible to continue delivering the most needed services for our communities. Resources were bottlenecked and nonprofits did not have the ability to reprioritize their state funds to provide the much-needed services to their communities.

In 2021, Senator Glazer authored a similar bill, SB 784, to allow nonprofits this flexibility. Although the bill received unanimous support, it did not get signed into law due to procedural technicalities. Clearly, there is legislative support of these flexibilities.

SOLUTION

Greater contract flexibility will allow these nonprofits to successfully implement and engage our communities during crisis responses relating to future emergencies relating to health, wildfires, or other natural disasters.

State-contracted programs need the ability to adapt and reprioritize disaster response and mitigation for the betterment of the communities affected. Flexibility on the contract would only be needed until the state agency and the nonprofit have the opportunity to modify the contract to meet changing programmatic needs. AB 619 supports the swift action of nonprofits and provides the needed flexibility to adapt properly to future crises.

SUPPORT

CalNonprofits – Sponsor
Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce
California Council of Community Behavioral Health Agencies (CBHA)
California Partnership to End Domestic Violence

California ReLeaf
Inland Empire Community Collaborative
Center for Nonprofit Management
Koreatown Youth + Community Center
Children's Institute
Meals on Wheels California
Community Alliance with Family Farmers
Nonprofit Finance Fund
Community Bridges
PATH
Rural Community Assistance Corporation
United Ways of California
Santa Cruz Volunteer Center
Fresno Building Healthy Communities
Self-Help Enterprises
TreePeople
HealthRight360
El Concilio of Stockton
California Coalition For Community Investment
Inland Southern California United Way
La Cooperativa Campesina De California
California Urban Forests Council
The Climate Center
LA Neighborhood Land Trust
Sacramento Tree Foundation
Canopy
Los Angeles Beautification Team
San Joaquin Urban Forest Council
Amigos de los Rios
Los Angeles/Orange County Regional Urban Forest
Council
San Diego Regional Urban Forests Council
Community Forest Advisory Committee
Arts District Community Council LA
Inland Urban Forest Council
Climate Action Now!
Central Coast Urban Forests Council
Watsonville Wetlands Watch
Growing Together
Clean & Green Pomona, Inc.
Angelenos for Trees
North East Trees
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Urban Ecos
Lumber Cycle
International Society of Arboriculture, Western
Chapter
Bay Area Urban Forest Ecosystem Council
Madera Coalition for Community Justice
Sustainable Claremont
Industrial District Green
Tree Fresno

Koreatown Youth & Community Center
Sacramento Urban Forest Council

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