

## CONCURRENCE IN SENATE AMENDMENTS

AB 2075 (Bennett)

As Amended August 11, 2026

Majority vote

**SUMMARY**

Establishes new fire safety and equipment standards for a person operating an internal combustion engine in fire prone areas and requires the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection (Board) to adopt certain emergency regulations.

**Senate Amendments**

- 1) Reference specific types of equipment in relation to where they should be located in proximity to the operator.
- 2) Eliminate a specified exception for a person operating a motorized vehicle from specified provisions for a member of an emergency crew and the driver and owner a service vehicle owned or operated by or for, or operated under contract with, a publicly or privately owned utility.
- 3) Require the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection (Board) to include in the emergency regulations requirements for the creation of any areas to be cleared around the operation and for the provision of suitable firefighting tools, as provided.
- 4) Requires a person, under specified conditions, to maintain at least one backpack pump-type fire extinguisher and a sufficient number of serviceable round point shovels, require the Board to define the terms "operating area" and "point accessible in the event of a fire," and to develop requirements for the provision of suitable firefighting tools, as applied to rangeland operations on rangeland conducted by a rangeland operator, as provided.
- 5) Double-joints this bill with SB 1167 (Blakespear) and incorporates amendments to Section 4442 of the Public Resources Code proposed by both this bill and SB 1167.

**COMMENTS**

Internal combustion engine-powered equipment, whether fueled by gasoline, diesel, propane, natural gas, or other fuels, can act as ignition sources. Without proper precautions, industrial machinery can quickly turn a small spark into a large, uncontrollable wildfire. Current law prohibits a person from using internal combustion engine-powered equipment on an industrial operation located on or near any forest, brush, or grass-covered land between April 1 and December 1 of any year, or at any other time when ground litter and vegetation will sustain combustion permitting the spread of fire, without providing and maintaining, for firefighting purposes only, suitable and serviceable tools in the specified amounts, manner and location.

Current law requires the availability of a sealed box of tools onsite of an industrial operation to be accessible in the event of fire onsite. The fire toolbox is required to contain one backpack pump-type fire extinguisher filled with water, two axes, two McLeod fire tools, and a sufficient number of shovels so that each employee at the operation can be equipped to fight fire. These requirements were enacted in 1971 and have not been updated since.

This bill specifies the required placement of mandatory fire extinguishing equipment and standardizes the entity responsible for compliance across several statutes.

### **According to the Author**

With climate change increasing the frequency and intensity of wildfires, California needs clarity regarding who to hold accountable when an accidental fire breaks out during an outdoor operation. AB 2075 clarifies fire safety standards during operations on or near any forest, brush, or grass-covered land and ensures companies performing such activities clearly know what they can be held liable for in the event a fire occurs. This bill is a commonsense measure to protect workers and guarantee justice for fire victims.

### **Arguments in Support**

The Ventura County District Attorney's Office writes that AB 2075 standardizes and clarified responsibility for compliance across multiple sections of the Public Resources Code, making clear that compliance rests not only on the individual worker but also with the businesses entity responsible for the operation

### **Arguments in Opposition**

None on file

## **FISCAL COMMENTS**

The Senate Appropriations Committee approved this bill pursuant to Senate Rule 28.8 in recognition of negligible state costs.

## **VOTES:**

### **ASM NATURAL RESOURCES: 14-0-0**

**YES:** Bryan, Ellis, Alanis, Connolly, Garcia, Haney, Hoover, Kalra, Macedo, Muratsuchi, Pellerin, Schultz, Hart, Zbur

### **ASM JUDICIARY: 12-0-0**

**YES:** Kalra, Macedo, Bauer-Kahan, Bryan, Connolly, Dixon, Harabedian, Pacheco, Papan, Sanchez, Stefani, Zbur

### **ASM APPROPRIATIONS: 15-0-0**

**YES:** Wicks, Hoover, Aguiar-Curry, Calderon, Caloza, Dixon, Fong, Mark González, Krell, Pacheco, Pellerin, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Ta, Tangipa

### **ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 73-0-7**

**YES:** Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

**ABS, ABST OR NV:** Arambula, Chen, Garcia, Hoover, Lackey, Ramos, Celeste Rodriguez

**SENATE FLOOR: 36-0-4**

**YES:** Allen, Alvarado-Gil, Archuleta, Arreguín, Ashby, Becker, Cabaldon, Caballero, Cervantes, Cortese, Dahle, Durazo, Gonzalez, Grayson, Grove, Hurtado, Laird, McGuire, McNerney, Menjivar, Niello, Ochoa Bogh, Padilla, Pérez, Reyes, Richardson, Rubio, Seyarto, Smallwood-Cuevas, Stern, Strickland, Umberg, Valladares, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener

**ABS, ABST OR NV:** Blakespear, Choi, Jones, Limón

**UPDATED**

VERSION: August 11, 2026

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