

---

THIRD READING

---

Bill No: SR 61  
Author: Pérez (D), et al.  
Introduced: 8/18/25  
Vote: Majority

---

**SUBJECT:** Building Resiliency

**SOURCE:** Author

---

**DIGEST:** This resolution declares its support for strengthening building resiliency as a key strategy to reduce risk from wildfires, earthquakes, extreme heat, sea level rise, and other hazards intensified by climate change

**ANALYSIS:** This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) Building resiliency involves a broad spectrum of strategies, including defensible space, home hardening, land use planning, energy performance, fire-resistant design, and the use of noncombustible materials that are durable and less likely to contribute to ignition or structural loss during disasters.
- 2) As the conditions for wildfires and other extreme events such as droughts, floods, heat waves, and sea level rise intensify due to climate change, California must enhance the resiliency of its built environment to protect lives, safeguard communities, ensure the integrity of infrastructure, and reduce recovery costs.
- 3) California continues to experience the devastating impacts of wildfires, with 9 of the 10 largest fires in state history occurring in the past decade, including the 2020 August Complex Fire, which burned over 1 million acres.
- 4) The economic and social costs of wildfires are staggering, with the 2017 and 2018 California fire seasons alone causing more than \$40 billion in damages, including over \$25 billion in insured losses, as well as long-term disruptions to communities, housing markets, public health, and the state's insurance system.
- 5) Improving building resiliency through code updates, material choices, home hardening measures, and incentives for risk-reducing construction practices will

not only reduce losses and save lives, but also support long-term housing stability, affordability, and climate adaptation.

This resolution encourages public and private stakeholders to adopt resilient construction practices, including the use of noncombustible materials, particularly in high-risk and Wildland-Urban Interface areas, to reduce structural loss, improve insurance viability, and enhance community safety.

**FISCAL EFFECT:** Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

**SUPPORT:** (Verified 8/27/25)

None received

**OPPOSITION:** (Verified 8/27/25)

None received

Prepared by: Hunter Flynn / SFA / (916) 651-1520  
8/27/25 16:11:04

\*\*\*\* **END** \*\*\*\*