

Submitter: D Torres
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and Wildfire
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB83
Chair & Committee Members,

I support this bill with reservations.

I'm sure if people look at the submitted testimony for SB 83 they would be surprised to see the box checked that I support this bill. Like most things the state likes to keep us in a little box. They don't allow to say support for part and oppose for part. My position is that all of SB 762 and SB 80 need to be repealed period. But that option is not before us. No one has submitted that clean of a fix. Knowing what is going on in Salem, that won't happen. SB 83 as originally drafted makes some fixes to the Home Hardening requirements to allow local codes to stay in effect if that were in place in 2021. The fixes are needed in the original bill. I do support that fix. Proposed amendments remove the Home Hardening fixes and completely change the bill. The new amendments REPEAL the map and remove the mandates for Defensive Space and Home Hardening. There are still a few problems but if an amendment is not passed or SB 678 never moves forward or if HB 3944 to repeal the map is not approved, we are stuck with the map and appeals go forward. Somehow, we have to remove the map and mandates. If it means support of a SB 83 amendment, warts and all, it is better than being stuck with the Hazard Map and mandatory Defensible Space and Home Hardening. All the games in Salem make it hard to follow and really see the truth. However this goes, we need to NEVER GIVE UP. I won't.

With that said, I support this bill and will hope for more changes down the road.