COUNTY OF NEVADA

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



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April 12, 2022

DATE OF MEETING: April 12, 2022

SUBJECT: Letter of Support for H.R. 6903 – Wildfire Suppression Bill

RECOMMENDATION: Approve and authorize the Chair to sign and submit the attached letter of

support for H.R. 6903 Suppression Bill.

FUNDING: None.

BACKGROUND: On March 3, 2022, U.S. congressional delegates Congressman Tom McClintock and Congressman LaMalfa introduced H.R. 6903 that requires the Secretary of Agriculture to carry out activities to suppress wildfire, and for other purposes. If passed, the bill directs the Secretary, to the maximum extent possible, to "...(i) use all available resources to carry out wildfire suppression with the purpose of extinguishing wildfires detected on National Forest System lands not later than 24 hours after such wildfire is detected; and (ii) immediately suppress any prescribed fire that exceeds prescription..." (attached). Additionally, the bill does provide a provision to allow prescribed fire or other suppression activities.

HR 6903 would provide policy direction to the USFS to help contain wildfire before it spreads out of control like the Tamarack Fire that started on July 4, 2021 and was detected and monitored for 13 days before it went on to burn 68,637 acres and take over 3 months to contain. To date, several other jurisdictions have provided formal support including the County of Placer, County of Amador, Placer County Water Agency, City of Rocklin, and City of Roseville.

Moreover, the Board adopted its 2022 Priority Objectives on emergency preparedness to "[l]ead the community in all hazards planning, preparedness, response, and recovery with a focus on wildfire. Do this by focusing on improving countywide evacuation routes and safety, continuing to strengthen early alert and critical communication systems, partnering closely with residents in emergency preparedness, defensible space, home hardening, green waste disposal, and fire-safe land stewardship."

Therefore, I recommend that the Board approve and authorize the Chair to sign and submit the attached Letter of Support for HR 6903 for wildfire suppression.

Sincerely,

Dan Miller, District III Supervisor

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