



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 24, 2022

Contact: Morgan Morales

mmorales@cbia.org

Former State Fire Marshal Joins Coalition of Home Builders and Businesses to Express Concerns about Proposed Regulations That Would Block Construction of Fire Safe Homes

Sacramento, Calif., January 24, 2022 - Former State Fire Marshal and Director of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, Ruben Grijalva, [submitted comments to the Board of Forestry to express concerns over the board's current draft of Fire Safe Regulations](#) which would block the construction of fire resilient homes that are needed to address California's housing crisis.

"The unintended consequences of the current draft will harm housing production without a commensurate fire safety benefit," Grijalva said in the letter.

Grijalva's comments were submitted to the Board of Forestry on behalf of the California Building Industry Association (CBIA) and a coalition of home builders and businesses. Grijalva served as California State Fire Marshall from 2004-2007 and Director of Cal Fire from 2007-2009.

The current draft of the Board of Forestry's regulations would exacerbate California's housing crisis, as it would likely prevent or delay the construction of fire safe master planned communities in many parts of the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI), despite evidence that current rigorous building standards for master planned communities are successful in preventing the destruction of homes from fire damage.

About the California Building Industry Association:

The California Building Industry Association is a statewide trade association based in Sacramento representing thousands of member companies including homebuilders, trade contractors, architects, engineers, designers, suppliers and industry professionals in the homebuilding, multi-family and mixed-use development markets.

###