

Submitter: Rachel Freed
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Education
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3149

I am writing to express my strong support for HB 3149, which allows for additional distributions of state moneys to wildfire-impacted school districts for an additional four school years. This legislation is essential to ensuring that our schools and communities recover and thrive after the devastating impacts of wildfires.

Wildfires have had a profound effect on many of our school districts, disrupting education, damaging facilities, and straining resources. As these communities work to rebuild and recover, it is crucial that we provide them with the necessary financial support to address the challenges they face. Extending funding for an additional four years will help stabilize these districts and allow them to focus on providing quality education for their students.

The continued financial support will enable schools to repair and upgrade damaged facilities, invest in necessary resources, and retain staff who are vital to the educational process. It will also provide the flexibility needed to implement programs that support students' social and emotional needs, which are particularly important in the aftermath of such traumatic events.

Moreover, this funding is not just about recovery; it is about rebuilding stronger, more resilient educational institutions. With additional resources, schools can enhance their infrastructure, integrate innovative technologies, and strengthen their emergency preparedness plans, ensuring they are better equipped to handle future challenges.

Supporting HB 3149 is also an investment in our children's futures. By providing our wildfire-impacted school districts with the necessary funding, we are ensuring that students can continue their education in a safe and supportive environment. This will help mitigate the long-term educational impacts of the wildfires and allow students to thrive academically and personally.

In conclusion, I wholeheartedly support HB 3149 and urge you to advocate for its passage. By extending state financial assistance to wildfire-impacted school districts, we are taking a crucial step toward supporting our communities and ensuring that every child has access to a quality education, regardless of the challenges they face. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.