

Submitter: victor lehr

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB926

I oppose SB 926. Consider this scenario: A utility faces a lawsuit related to wildfire and opts to settle to avoid protracted litigation and compensate victims more quickly for their losses, without admitting fault.

Under the proposed bill, the utility would be unable to recover these settlement costs, even if this

approach was the most responsible decision for all parties. This provision could have unintended

consequences by discouraging prudent legal decision-making, creating a disincentive for settling

with affected parties, and impacting utilities' ability to recover legitimate costs