Introduced by Senator Durazo (Principal coauthors: Senators Cortese, Menjivar, Pérez, Reyes, Smallwood-Cuevas, and Stern)

February 20, 2025

An act relating to wildfires.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 629, as introduced, Durazo. Wildfires: fire hazard severity zones. Existing law requires the State Fire Marshal to identify areas of the state as moderate, high, and very high fire hazard severity zones based on specified criteria. Existing law requires a person who owns, leases, controls, operates, or maintains an occupied dwelling or structure in a very high fire hazard severity zone to maintain defensible space of 100 feet from each side of the structure, except as provided. Existing law requires the Office of the State Fire Marshal to develop a model defensible space program, as provided, that includes, but is not limited to, specified components, including enforcement mechanisms for compliance with and maintenance of defensible space requirements. Existing law includes among these enforcement mechanisms, among other things, site inspections.

This bill would declare the intent of the Legislature to enact subsequent legislation regarding the frequency of inspections for compliance with defensible space requirements and the inclusion of land within a fire hazard severity zone following a wildfire.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no.

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The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- SECTION 1. It is the intent of the Legislature to enact 1 subsequent legislation regarding both of the following: 2
- 3 (a) The frequency of inspections for compliance with defensible 4
- space requirements.
- 5 (b) The inclusion of land within a fire hazard severity zone
- following a wildfire. 6

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