



ORA

Office of Ratepayer Advocates
California Public Utilities Commission

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April 3, 2018

The Honorable Jim Wood
California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 6005
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 2910 (Wood) – Support

Dear Assemblymember Wood:

The Office of Ratepayer Advocates (ORA) is the independent consumer advocate within the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC). ORA's mission is to advocate for the lowest possible rates for customers of California's regulated utilities consistent with safe, reliable service levels and the state's environmental goals.

ORA supports AB 2910, as amended on March 15, 2018, which would require the CPUC to annually report to the Legislature on telecommunications service providers' efforts to restore service outages caused by a natural disaster after the Governor has declared a state or local emergency.

Communication service outages impact public safety. The increasing number of wildfires and other natural disasters has resulted in unprecedented damage to properties and utility infrastructure across industry areas. AB 2910 would help state officials share important information on how telecommunications service providers' are restoring service outages following a natural disaster to ensure that Californians continue to have access to essential communication services.

ORA looks forward to working with you on this legislation. If you have any questions or would like to discuss this matter further, please don't hesitate to contact me at (415) 703-2381 or at elizabeth.echols@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Echols
Director