



**Date:** May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019

**To:** The Honorable Lorena Gonzalez, Chair  
The Honorable Frank Bigelow, Vice Chair  
Members, Assembly Appropriations Committee

**From:** Rex D. Frazier, President  
Seren Taylor, Senior Legislative Advocate

**Re:** AB 1049 (Grayson) Sales and Use Taxes: Exemption: On-Call Volunteer Fire Department: Equipment.

**PIFC Position: Support**

The Personal Insurance Federation of California (PIFC) is a statewide trade association that represents five of the nation's largest property and casualty insurance companies (State Farm, Liberty Mutual Insurance, Progressive, Mercury, and Nationwide as well as associate member NAMIC) who write personal lines auto and home insurance in California.

California's firefighters are always on the front lines and PIFC is pleased to support legislation to help our state and local firefighters in their mission to protect life and property, and to serve our communities.

AB 1049 will provide a sales and use tax exemption on equipment purchased for exclusive use by an on-call volunteer fire department. Volunteer fire departments are an important layer of defense for families and structures against wildfire damages. AB 1049 supports these groups by easing financial burdens associated with purchasing essential firefighting equipment.

In addition to the drastic economic impacts associated with fighting wildfires, the recent catastrophic wildfires of 2017 and 2018 have exposed our firefighters to devastating losses of life and property. As the State approaches another fire season, we must remain vigilant in ensuring our first responders have all the resources required to protect our communities and themselves.

AB 1049 recognizes this on-going need to support the men and women who are the first lines of defense against fires.

For all these reasons, we are pleased to support AB 1049. If you have any questions regarding PIFC's position, please contact Seren Taylor at (916) 442-6646.

cc: Assemblymember Timothy Grayson, Author  
Luke Reidenbach, Principal Consultant, Assembly Appropriations Committee  
Ellen Cesaretti, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus  
Che Salinas, Deputy Legislative Secretary, Office of the Governor