



## CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS

455 NORTH REXFORD DRIVE ▪ BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA 90210

Robert Wunderlich, Mayor

August 5, 2021

The Honorable Mike McGuire  
California State Senate, 2nd District  
State Capitol, Room 5061  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: SB 341 (McGuire) Telecommunications service: outages  
City of Beverly Hills – Support

Dear Senator McGuire:

On behalf of the City of Beverly Hills, I am pleased to write to you in SUPPORT of your SB 341, which would require each provider of telecommunications service to maintain on its internet website a public outage map showing provider's service outages. Additionally, the bill would require the Office of Emergency Services (OES), in consultation with the Public Utilities Commission (PUC), to adopt by regulation requirements for those maps. The bill would also authorize OES to provide the commission with all of the information provided to it as part of a telecommunications service provider's community isolation outage notification and require OES to aggregate that data and post that aggregated data on its internet website.

During the power outages in October of 2019, nearly two million Northern California residents had their landline, cell phone, and cable service interrupted. Over 800 cell towers across California did not have sufficient backup power, which meant the towers went dark, leaving thousands with no ability to reach public safety services should they need to. During disasters, the inability of the cell towers to communicate evacuation notices and emergency alerts can cost lives.

Currently, OES receives the outage information from telecommunication providers but cannot share it with the PUC. The PUC must rely on agency-initiated data requests to learn about the same failures OES already is notified about. Without this vital information, the PUC is unable to know if their backup power requirements and other resiliency efforts are working.

SB 341 will improve our telecommunications networks by creating stronger oversight and accountability of both the telecommunication providers and the PUC regarding outages and backup power systems. For these reasons, we are pleased to SUPPORT your SB 341. Thank you for authoring this critical measure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert Wunderlich".

Robert Wunderlich  
Mayor, City of Beverly Hills

cc: Members and Consultants, Assembly Appropriations Committee  
Members and Consultants, Assembly Emergency Management Committee  
Members and Consultants, Assembly Communications and Conveyance Committee  
The Honorable Ben Allen, 26th Senate District  
The Honorable Richard Bloom, 50th Assembly District  
Andrew K. Antwih, Shaw Yoder Antwih Schmelzer & Lange