



BEN ALLEN

FOR INSURANCE COMMISSIONER



The Insurance Crisis is a Climate Crisis

Climate change is driving risk across California. As disasters grow more frequent and severe, insurers are pulling out of at-risk communities, premiums are climbing, and more families are being pushed onto the state's last-resort FAIR Plan. The insurance market is where the climate crisis hits Californians in their pocketbooks, which is exactly why the next Insurance Commissioner has to treat climate risk as core to the job, not separate from it.

The Insurance Commissioner is not California's primary climate regulator, but the office sits at the intersection of climate risk, financial markets, land use, business continuity, and disaster recovery. As climate change makes wildfires, flooding, and extreme weather more destructive, insurance is becoming one of California's most important climate-adaptation tools.

A PROVEN ENVIRONMENTAL CHAMPION

Proposition 4:

\$10 Billion Climate Bond

Ben authored California's \$10 billion climate bond, including \$1.5 billion for wildfire prevention and major investments in drinking water, drought and flood resilience, coastal protection, biodiversity, parks, and climate adaptation.

Climate Investments

As chair of the Senate budget subcommittee overseeing natural resources, environmental protection, and energy, Ben helped direct the first \$3.2 billion in Proposition 4 funding to projects across California.



SB 54: Plastic Pollution

Ben authored California's landmark producer-responsibility law requiring a 25 percent reduction in single-use plastic packaging, a 65 percent recycling rate by 2032, and \$5 billion from producers to address plastic pollution.

SB 392: Removing Harmful Chemicals in Consumer Products

Ben authored the law to reform and strengthen California's Green Chemistry Program to empower the state to move more quickly to address the most toxic chemicals in consumer products.

SB 834: Protecting the Coast

Ben authored the law preventing new state leases and infrastructure from supporting expanded federal offshore oil drilling along California's coast.

SB 1044: PFAS Firefighting Foam

Ben authored the law phasing out certain firefighting foams containing toxic PFAS chemicals and requiring disclosure when firefighting equipment contains PFAS.

SB 1017: Protecting Marine Life

Ben authored the law phasing out destructive drift gillnets, establishing a permit-buyout program, and transitioning California's swordfish industry toward more sustainable fishing methods.

SB 249: Sustainable Off-Highway Recreation

Ben authored the law reforming and reauthorizing California's Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Program while strengthening safeguards for the natural and cultural resources of state parklands.

The Insurance Commissioner's Ability to Influence Climate Policy

Rewarding resilience:

Push insurers to recognize home hardening, vegetation management, and other proven mitigation in their pricing and underwriting.

Catastrophe model oversight:

Set transparency and accountability rules for forward-looking catastrophe models, and build independent public expertise so insurers' proprietary models aren't the only word.

Climate stress testing:

Require insurers to assess whether their underwriting and investments can withstand escalating physical and transition-related climate risks.

Investment transparency:

Disclose insurers' fossil-fuel exposure and scrutinize the contradiction of insurers financing the risks they're pricing families out of.

Climate-risk disclosure:

Require insurers to explain how climate change affects their underwriting, reserves, and long-term financial stability.

Market accountability:

Tie any added flexibility for insurers to measurable commitments to write and retain policies in communities that invest in mitigation.

Post-disaster enforcement:

Investigate claims practices and penalize insurers that mishandle claims after climate-driven disasters.



An Environmental Champion Is Needed in This Office

Climate action cannot stop at reducing emissions. California must also prepare communities for the climate impacts already here. The next Insurance Commissioner can make resilience financially valuable, hold insurers accountable for their own climate exposure, and ensure the insurance system supports, rather than obstructs, California's environmental goals.

Ben has the track record, the experience, and the plan needed to do exactly that.

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