BEN ALLEN
FOR INSURANCE COMMISSIONER

STATEMENT FROM STATE SENATOR BEN ALLEN ON THE RACE FOR INSURANCE COMMISSIONER

SANTA MONICA, CA — State Senator Ben Allen (D-Santa Monica) issued the following statement today:

Earlier, I called Jane Kim to congratulate her. Jane ran a strong race, and it appears that she has won. Assuming that is the case, I desperately want her to succeed, because if she succeeds, the state succeeds – especially the families in need that we've been fighting for across the state.

I want to thank my wife, Melanie, and our children for sharing me with the whole state and apologize to them for the difficult sacrifices associated with a competitive year-long statewide campaign. Thank you to my amazing staff and to the volunteers who knocked on doors and made calls to every corner of California. Thank you to everyone who donated to our campaign. Thank you to the California Democratic Party, California Professional Firefighters, the Sierra Club, the Consumer Federation, and many other organizations of various political and ideological stripes for their endorsements. And thank you to my legislative colleagues from both parties and former primary opponents for standing with me and providing valuable counsel throughout the campaign. I was humbled to receive your support, and I am sorry not to have been able to land the plane.

I ran for this office because of what I saw after fires devastated my community and region. Families in the Palisades and Altadena who had paid their premiums for decades and did everything right and who are now struggling to get the help they need. This election doesn't change what they're going through, and it doesn't change my commitment to them. I also ran for this office in the hopes that we can leverage this insurance crisis to push for changes in culture and policy that will make our state's communities safer and more affordable.

I am coming to the end of my time in elected office, and I look back with some pride on things worked on and achieved, including laws to ensure that survivors will get paid faster and at higher amounts without having to list every item they lost, laws that will make it harder for insurers to drop families after a wildfire, give the Insurance Commissioner new power to force insurers to fix problems, and create low-interest loans to help families make their homes safer.

I've worked on legislation to encourage greater public-private coordination in investments in resilience and risk reduction to make our communities safer, led the effort to pass California's $10 billion climate bond that is putting real state resources into water and firefighting infrastructure, and wrote the state's landmark law to cut plastic pollution and shift the cost burden of plastics away from rate-payers toward producers and polluters. We've worked on climate policy, consumer protections, energy affordability, educational quality, and transparency, ethics, and political reform. Serving in the State Senate for twelve years has been the honor of my life, and I'll spend my remaining weeks here finishing the job.

I'm proud of the campaign we ran, and I'm deeply grateful to the millions of Californians—nearly half of the electorate—who entrusted me with their votes and who believed in my vision for a better and healthier insurance system in California. The work goes on and I will always fight for our environment, my community, my constituents, and the people of California, to ensure they receive fair treatment, achieve lasting affordability, and get to live in a safer and healthier state. I wish Jane the very best in this incredibly important work.

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ABOUT BEN ALLEN:
California State Senator Ben Allen represents the 24th Senate District covering the Westside, Hollywood, South Bay, and Santa Monica Mountains communities of LA County. Ben was first elected in 2014 and is now serving his third term in the State Senate.

Ben has thrown himself into the important work of state government, focusing on wise decision-making and pushing for reforms that address systemic inadequacies in our state. He has authored nearly 100 new laws in various areas, from environmental protection to electoral reform.

Throughout his career, Ben's North Star has always been clear: put the public interest first. That mission came into even clearer view for Ben during the Palisades Fire in January. As his constituents were directly impacted, Ben immediately got to work on efforts to assist with the governmental response.



He ran for Insurance Commissioner to continue his lifelong commitment to fighting for the public good — protecting consumers, safeguarding the environment, and making government more transparent and accountable to the people it serves.