

March 20, 2026

The Honorable Dave Cortese
California State Senator
1021 O Street, Suite 7520
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Senate Bill 870 (Cortese) – Tabletop Firepits – SUPPORT

Dear Senator Cortese,

The California Product Stewardship Council (CPSC) expresses our **support of SB 870 (Cortese)** which prohibits the sale of high-risk tabletop firepits that fail to meet industry safety standards.

Since 2007, CPSC has worked to develop California’s visionary Product Stewardship and consumer safety policies, sponsoring bills such as AB 2462 (Pellerin, 2026) addressing unsafe recalled products and SB 1280 (Laird, 2024) addressing single-use propane cylinders.

Decorative tabletop fire features that burn pourable or refillable liquid fuels in open reservoirs have been involved in a significant number of catastrophic burns and fatalities. The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission has reported two deaths and at least sixty serious burn injuries since 2019. Tragically, this past October in Morgan Hill, CA a three-year-old suffered second and third degree burns to 15% of his body, including his face and arms, after the family’s indoor tabletop feature exploded while making s’mores.

Roughly 152,000 firepits have been recalled in the last year after 31 flame-jetting incidents and splash and leak hazards. Many imported products fail to adhere to recommended safety standards. Isopropyl (rubbing) alcohol, ethanol/bioethanol, and similar liquid fuels burn with flame temperatures over 1,600°F and can cause third degree burns in less than one second. Igniting a pool of alcohol or other liquid fuel in a firepit’s open container creates an uncontrollable pool fire, which can suddenly produce larger, hotter flames that can spread beyond the fire pit product.

SB 870 requires firepit tabletops sold in California to meet American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) standards to protect the public from unsafe and deadly fire features. [Your organization] is deeply committed to mitigating risk and protecting consumers in California from unnecessary and preventable injuries. For these reasons, **CPSC supports SB 870 and requests your “AYE” vote on this important measure.**

Respectfully,



Dr. Joanne Brasch
Director of Advocacy and Outreach
California Product Stewardship Council