



TO: House Agriculture, Water & Natural Resources Committee
FROM: Nick Torres – Director, Advocacy
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DATE: March 17, 2025
SUBJECT: Support for SB 25-015

The American Lung Association would like to offer our support for SB 25-015 and thank the sponsors for their continued work to expand public access to quality wildfire information and ultimately to help protect Coloradans from the impacts of wildfires.

Wildfire smoke is extremely harmful to a person's lungs. But some groups are especially at risk, including children, older adults and people with asthma, COPD, chronic heart disease, and diabetes. Farmworkers and other people who work outdoors are also significantly impacted by wildfire smoke.

The Lung Association shares the goal of improving access to timely, trusted information and protecting the public from the dangers of wildfires. We have expanded the educational materials on our website so that Coloradans and other living in wildfire-prone areas can better protect themselves and their families.

We also commissioned a report on several facets of wildfire smoke and its public health impacts. Among the report's findings and policy recommendations were that wildfire activity is predicted to increase in the decades ahead and that more must be done to communicate with vulnerable communities regarding wildfire risks. This bill supports the work of the Department of Public Safety and other agencies by providing critical coordination of state and local wildfire information.

The Lung Association supports policies to reduce the negative public health impacts associated with wildfire smoke, including greater levels of communication to the public: education campaigns, public health awareness, and emergency notifications, especially for the most vulnerable groups.

We encourage your support for Senate Bill 25-015.