

COUNTY OF EL DORADO

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April 7, 2026

The Honorable Buffy Wicks, Chair
Assembly Appropriations Committee
Members, Assembly Appropriations Committee
1021 O Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 1941 (Gonzalez) – SUPPORT

Dear Chair Wicks,

On behalf of El Dorado County, we write in support of AB 1941 (Mark Gonzalez), which strengthens theft prevention and enforcement against attacks on critical communications infrastructure.

The rising market value of copper has increased criminal theft and vandalism targeting communications networks across California. These attacks often disrupt emergency communications, impact 911 services, and jeopardize public safety by damaging copper-based and non-copper-based infrastructure such as fiber-optic lines, vaults, and wireless facilities.

As cited in recent reports, California continues to experience a significant share of metal theft incidents nationwide, contributing to widespread outages and service disruptions affecting consumers, businesses, and emergency responders.

AB 1941 provides strengthened enforcement tools by establishing the category of organized metal theft and supporting better information-sharing among law enforcement, public agencies, telecommunications providers, and recyclers through a statewide data system.

The bill enhances the state's ability to identify theft patterns, connect related cases, and take action against coordinated criminal activity targeting critical communication infrastructure.

For these reasons, we strongly support AB 1941 (Gonzalez) and respectfully request an AYE vote.

Sincerely,

Brooke Laine
Chair, Board of Supervisors