

# Opinion: How Congress funds firefighting needs fixing

By David Edelson and Tim Quinn, Sacramento Bee

California continues to experience the worst wildfires in its history, with tragic loss of life and devastation to communities, a disaster for our state by any definition.

Congress has an opportunity to act now to reduce the risk of future such disasters. California's representatives in Congress – especially House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy and House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi – should make sure that it does.

Congress is working on yet another bill to fund disaster recovery, as part of a larger year-end bill to keep the government operating. A fire funding fix belongs in that bill. Not all of this year's fires involved our federal forests, but the fires burning in Southern California right now do, and future fires will.

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