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**Tuesday, March 18, 2025**

**[SB 222](#) ([Wiener D](#)) **Climate disasters: civil actions.****

Current law gives a person the right of protection from bodily harm and the right to possess and use property. If a person suffers bodily harm or a loss of their property because of the unlawful act or omission of another, current law authorizes them to recover compensation from the person at fault, which is known as damages. This bill would authorize a person to bring a civil action, if specified criteria are met, including damages of \$10,000 or more, against a party responsible for a climate disaster or extreme weather or other events attributable to climate change due to the responsible party's misleading and deceptive practices or the provision of misinformation or disinformation about the connection between its fossil fuel products and climate change and extreme weather or other events attributable to climate change. The bill would make responsible parties jointly, severally, and strictly liable to a plaintiff for the climate disaster or extreme weather or other events attributable to climate change. The bill would set forth venue requirements and prohibited defenses for that action, and would require the court to award a prevailing plaintiff the full extent of noneconomic, compensatory, and punitive damages allowable, as specified. The bill would provide that the connection of a climate disaster, extreme weather or other events attributable to climate change, or harms resulting from long-term changes to the climate system to alleged injuries are an injury in fact for all residents of the state harmed by the event and would give those persons standing to bring a civil action pursuant to the above-described provisions.

**Cal Cities Position:** Watch

**Primary Lobbyist:** [Melissa Sparks-Kranz](#)

**Policy Committee :** [EQ](#)

Desk	<b>Policy</b>	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							