



March 3, 2022

Assemblymember Buffy Wicks
Chair, Assembly Housing and Community Development Committee
1020 N Street, Room 156
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Assembly Bill 2094 (R. Rivas) General plan: annual report: extremely low-income housing letter of Support from MidPen Housing Corporation

Dear Chairperson Buffy Wicks:

On behalf of MidPen Housing Corporation, we write in support of AB 2094 (R. Rivas), which seeks to improve data collection on housing production for homeless and housing-insecure Californians.

MidPen Housing is one of the nation's leading nonprofit developers, owners and managers of high-quality, affordable housing and onsite resident services. Since MidPen was founded in 1970, we have developed over 100 communities and 8,000 homes for low-income families, seniors and those with supportive housing needs throughout Northern California.

AB 2094 will increase transparency in existing building reporting requirements by requiring local jurisdictions to clarify their progress towards building new units for extremely low-income (ELI) households. Current law states that cities must allocate a certain number of sites for ELI units available to households with incomes of 0-30% of the area average median income (AMI). Right now, cities are required to report their progress on building various levels of low-income housing but are not required to specifically report the number of ELI units being built.

This legislation does not change the housing element or the RHNA allocation for any jurisdiction. AB 2094 increases transparency by requiring that the form to report annual progress on housing production to HCD add an additional column to specifically report progress on ELI unit production. Several jurisdictions around the state already track and share data on ELI housing production as part of their efforts to prioritize the development of such units to help alleviate the severe shortage of affordable housing that leads to homelessness.

AB 2094 provides additional information to ensure that existing commitments to create affordable housing at all income levels are met. This bill will also help the state understand where gaps exist and assist in effectively allocating resources for those who are most vulnerable to homelessness.

For all these reasons, we support AB 2094.

Sincerely,



Matthew O. Franklin
President and CEO

cc:

Senator Mike McGuire
Senator Bill Dodd
Senator Jim Nielsen
Senator Steve Glazer
Senator Nancy Skinner
Senator Bob Wieckowski
Senator Scott Wiener
Senator Anna Caballero
Senator Josh Becker
Senator Dave Cortese
Senator John Laird
Assemblymember Marc Levine
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Assemblymember Rob Bonta
Assemblymember Phil Ting
Assemblymember Bill Quirk
Assemblymember Kevin Mullin
Assemblymember Marc Berman
Assemblymember Alex Lee
Assemblymember Ash Kalra
Assemblymember Mark Stone
Assemblymember Robert Rivas
Nevada V. Merriman, Director of Policy, MidPen Housing