

CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS

455 NORTH REXFORD DRIVE • BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA 90210

Robert Wunderlich, Mayor

May 12, 2021

The Honorable Anthony Portantino Chair, Senate Appropriations Committee State Capitol, Room 2206 Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: SB 679 (Kamlager) – Los Angeles County: affordable housing

The City of Beverly Hills – Support

Dear Chair Portantino,

On behalf of the City of Beverly Hills, I write to inform you of our SUPPORT position for SB 679 (Kamlager) which would create the Los Angeles County Affordable Housing Solutions Agency (LACAHSA). This agency would be tasked with providing significantly enhanced funding and technical assistance at a regional level for renter protections, affordable housing preservation, and new affordable housing production.

Los Angeles County needs a comprehensive and countywide approach to protecting, preserving, and creating accessible and affordable housing. SB 679 can help achieve this through the creation of LACAHSA and the unique fiscal approach this bill provides by allowing LACAHSA to raise revenue and fund housing solutions, both through a dedicated local revenue source and other non-tax strategies.

Our city advocates for local and regional solutions that allow for local control to address critical housing issues. Like many local governments, we share in the state's goals in increasing accessible and affordable housing production but often are at odds with how to best address them. The sheer number of cities within Los Angeles County makes reaching any housing goal challenging, mainly because each local government is often tasked with affordable housing financing and lacks the tools to leverage regional partners to raise additional capital for these types of projects. SB 679 addresses

these issues by laying out enhanced funding options through this regional approach to spur additional funding and capacity.

For these reasons, we are pleased to support your SB 679 (Kamlager). Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Robert Wunderlich

Mayor, City of Beverly Hills

Robert Wunderlich

Cc: Members and Consultants, Senate Appropriations Committee Members Members and Consultants, Senate Governance and Finance Committee Members and Consultants, Senate Housing Committee The Honorable Ben Allen, Senator 26th District The Honorable Richard Bloom, Assemblyman 50th District Andrew Antwih, Shaw Yoder Antwih Schmelzer & Lange