

Quality Housing • Ethics • Professionalism

September 2, 2014

The Honorable Jerry Brown California State Governor State Capitol, First Floor Sacramento, CA 94814

AB 2747 (Assembly Judiciary) – Omnibus Bill – Support – Request for Signature

Dear Governor Brown:

On behalf of the members of the California Apartment Association, I write to request your signature on AB 2747, the Assembly Judiciary's omnibus bill that includes, among other things, clarification to allow landlords and tenants to continue the practice of signing leases and rental agreements electronically.

As technology has advanced, and state law has allowed, residential rental property owners and tenants have signed their contracts electronically when both parties agree. This is not only convenient, it allows for tenants and landlords to have a signed version of the contract immediately. There has been some confusion around the ability to continue this practice if a contract references security deposit law (Civil Code 1950.5). AB 2747 strikes references to security deposit law within the California Uniform Electronic Transactions Act, making it clear and consistent with another California law (Civil Code Section 1950.5(g)(1)) that allows security deposits to be returned and security deposit documents to be signed electronically.

The California Apartment Association is the largest rental housing organization in the nation, representing owners and property managers who together operate more than 2 million units statewide. We thank you for your consideration on this important measure.

Respectfully,

CALIFORNIA APARTMENT ASSOCIATION

By Debra L. Carlton Senior Vice President Public Affairs