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May 3, 2017

TO: Members of the California State Assembly

FROM:

American Planning Association, California Chapter California League of Conservation Voters California Rural Legal Assistance Foundation California State Association of Counties Council of Infill Builders Housing California Natural Resources Defense Council Planning and Conservation League Public Advocates SF Council of Community Housing Organizations State Building and Construction Trades Council Tenants Together Western Center on Law & Poverty

RE: AB 1505 – Land use: zoning regulations

On behalf of the above listed organizations, we urge your support for AB 1505 (Bloom). This bill will restore the long-standing authority of local governments to establish inclusionary housing requirements as a condition of the development of residential rental units.

We are a coalition of equity, housing, environmental, labor and local government groups that have come together to find workable solutions to California's affordable housing shortage. We believe AB 1505 is a critical component of any larger legislative package that is aimed at comprehensive reform to increase the supply and affordability of housing through the state.

Despite the success of local inclusionary housing programs as an effective tool for producing new affordable housing, an appellate court decision (*Palmer v. City of Los Angeles*) created uncertainty and confusion for local governments and housing advocates regarding the future viability of this important and well-established local land use tool. AB 1505 restores the law to what it was prior to the Palmer case and provides clear authority for local governments to establish inclusionary housing programs that best fit the needs of their local area.

For all these reasons, we urge your AYE vote on AB 1505.