



May 20, 2019

The Honorable Toni Atkins
Pro-Tem, California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 205
Sacramento, CA 95814

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

RE: Support for Comprehensive Legislative Housing Package – SB 50 (Wiener)

Dear Pro-Tem Atkins and Senator Portantino:

On behalf of the California Labor Federation and the State Building and Construction Trades Council, we write to express our strong support for a comprehensive package of housing policy solutions—including increased funding for affordable housing, anti-displacement measures, and a production component to promote housing development in areas that have adequate resources and access to transportation.

Working families are struggling with skyrocketing housing costs and rents while wages remain stagnant or decline. The state must invest in housing production and take this opportunity to create good-paying union jobs and apprenticeships in all communities, while also adopting strong tenant protections for working families. In fact, every good job we create building homes means one less family forced to rely on public subsidies.

We also want to take this opportunity to thank you for your leadership and continued commitment to a collaborative effort to address the housing crisis. We look forward to continuing to work with you and your colleagues throughout the year as California seeks to revitalize communities through the production of new housing like that proposed in SB 50 (Wiener), along with the tenant protection measures like AB 1481 (Grayson/Bonta) and AB 1482 (Chiu) that look after our state's working families and most vulnerable residents.

In closing, we believe California can only solve the housing crisis by addressing inequality, making housing more affordable and creating more good union jobs.

Sincerely,

CESAR DIAZ
Legislative & Political Director
State Building & Construction Trades

CAITLIN VEGA
Legislative Director
California Labor Federation

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