**PLEASE ADD YOUR LETTERHEAD AND SEND EMAIL TO** **Ravi.Kahlon@asm.ca.gov**

**and SUBMIT TO** <https://calegislation.lc.ca.gov/Advocates/>

DATE, 2024

The Honorable Pilar Schiavo

California State Senate

1021 O Street, Suite 4140

Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: AB 1820 (Schiavo) HOUSING DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS: APPLICATIONS: FEES AND EXACTIONS - SUPPORT**

Dear Assemblymember Pilar Schiavo,

On behalf of [ORGANIZATION NAME], I write in support of Assembly Bill 1820, which allows developers to request a fee and exaction statement estimate from their local jurisdiction in good-faith. This provides developers with financial certainty and predictability when estimating the cost of local impact fees on proposed housing projects, which encourages more needed affordable housing.

[OPTIONAL: INSERT BRIEF STATEMENT ABOUT WHY YOUR ORGANIZATION SUPPORTS AB 2144 AND/OR HOW IT WILL IMPACT YOUR MEMBERS. IF YOU DO NOT WANT TO INCLUDE A STATEMENT, PLEASE DELETE THIS PARAGRAPH.]

The lack of transparency surrounding local permitting fees presents significant challenges for affordable housing developers. The current system, where fees are disclosed only after each phase of the project moves forward, not only adds uncertainty but can also significantly increase the cost of projects. A 2018 study conducted by the Terner Center for Housing Innovation at the University of California, Berkeley found that fees and exactions can amount up to 18 percent of the median home price. Without a standardized process to estimate development fees, builders must rely on informal relationships with planners and building officials to obtain estimates, which is a process that is neither reliable nor equitable. Furthermore, the unpredictability of these fees can delay or obstruct projects altogether.

AB 1820 is a common sense bill that would remove barriers and ensure the swift delivery of affordable housing. We are grateful for your leadership in championing this important legislation and for your dedication to improving the lives of Californians.

For these reasons, [YOUR ORGANIZATION] supports AB 1820 (Schiavo).

Sincerely,

[Signature]

**[Typed Name]**