

# SUPPORT AB 413 (FONG):

## Removing Language Barriers to Housing Law

**AB 413 will make housing law more accessible by requiring HCD to translate key guidelines and handbooks into commonly spoken non-English languages.**

**California has made strides to make new homes faster and easier to build — but these new laws are not always easy to translate and utilize.**

- ➡ Long-time career home builders will sometimes struggle to understand when and how to use a law let alone individual homeowners and property owners.

**Some housing laws can be especially beneficial for communities of color — but only if they know they are available, and how to take advantage of them.**

- ➡ SB 9 (Atkins, 2021) and various ADU laws, for example, allow property owners to get more value out of their land, can turn one property into homeownership opportunities for other family members, and create more diverse housing options for multigenerational families.

**The California Department of Housing & Community Development (HCD) produces handbooks, guides, and other resources to make it easier for Californians to understand how to apply housing laws in their communities.**

- ➡ However, these materials are currently only published in English, making it difficult for non-English speakers or those for whom English is not their first language to utilize these resources and the laws they explain.
- ➡ While English-speaking Californians have resources available to help them take advantage of recent housing legislation, non-English speaking or non-fluent Californians do not have equitable access.

**AB 413 will allow California's key housing laws to be accessible to a broader population of Californians.**

### **AB 413 will:**

- ➡ Require HCD to translate key resources for understanding and using housing law, such as the ADU handbook, into more languages.
- ➡ Create equitable access to state housing handbooks for any group that does not speak English, or does not speak English well, and that comprise at least 5 percent or more of the people served by the agency.
  - ★ Some common languages include Spanish, Mandarin, Cantonese, Filipino, Hindi, and Korean.

**YES on AB 413**