



September 28, 2015

The Honorable Edmund G. Brown Jr.  
Governor of the State of California  
State Capitol, Suite 1173  
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 35 (Chiu): Low Income Housing Tax Credit: **Request for Signature**

Dear Governor Brown,

As mayors of California's largest cities, we urge you to sign AB 35, which will help cities tackle California's growing affordable housing crisis by increasing California's Low Income Housing Tax Credit by \$100 million annually for five years.

Cities know firsthand the impact of the state's affordable housing crisis. Nearly 1.5 million new affordable homes are needed to meet growing demand. The high cost of housing has forced nearly 22 percent of Californians below the poverty line, a higher percentage than that of any other state.

Our cities are finding innovative new streams of funding for affordable housing and have collectively increased support for affordable housing and supportive services by \$57 million this year. However, in order to make real progress we need help from Sacramento. State and federal investment in housing has dropped by 69% since 2008, and California cities have lost nearly \$1 billion a year in state funding for affordable housing since 2012.


Increasing support for affordable housing makes sense for taxpayers. Not only are costs related to homelessness reduced by 79% when individuals have an affordable place to live, but AB 35 will generate \$475 million in additional local income, \$440 million in state and local revenue, and create nearly 7,000 jobs.


AB 35 is critically important to ensuring that more Californians are provided the dignity of a place to call home, and we respectfully request your signature on the measure. Thank you for considering this legislation.


Sincerely,

  
ERIC GARCETTI  
Mayor of Los Angeles

  
KEVIN FAULCONER  
Mayor of San Diego


  
ASHLEY SWEARENGIN  
Mayor of Fresno

  
ED LEE  
Mayor of San Francisco

  
ROBERT GARCIA  
Mayor of Long Beach

  
SAM LICCARDO  
Mayor of San Jose

  
LIBBY SCHAAF  
Mayor of Oakland

  
MIGUEL PULIDO  
Mayor of Santa Ana

  
KEVIN JOHNSON  
Mayor of Sacramento