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COALITION STRONGLY OPPOSES DEVELOPER'S "BY-Right" HOUSING BILL THAT WOULD ALLOW DEVELOPERS TO CUT CORNERS AT EXPENSE OF LOW-INCOME COMMUNITIES, THE ENVIRONMENT AND WORKERS

Legislation Being Rushed Through Behind Closed Doors in Sacramento Would Allow California Developers to Push Through Housing Projects Without Public or Environmental Review and Do Nothing to Improve Affordable Housing and putting Low Income Communities at Risk

Los Angeles, CA -- A broad coalition of community, labor, environmental, affordable housing and social justice groups gathered today to express their strong opposition to the current "by right" housing proposal that would imperil low-income communities, the environment and workers and do nothing to improve California's affordable housing crisis. The coalition released the following statement today at a press conference in Los Angeles:

We fully support development and especially low income and affordable housing, but we don't support giving developers special exemptions at the expense of working families, the environment, and tenant protections.

This bill does nothing to truly address the housing crisis in California. This proposal will in fact strip away public oversight and undermines existing local affordable housing goals.

California needs more affordable housing and a process for approving it that supports existing jobs and housing, strengthens the democratic process, and protects the health and safety of our communities. We need policies that stem the tide of displacement and assure that all communities in California do their fair share to facilitate building housing that is truly affordable.

Development should not cause displacement. Policies that deregulate market-rate housing development have proven in all of California's major urban areas to cause displacement of lower-income communities. High-priced housing developments are already destroying existing diverse neighborhoods, displacing residents, small businesses, and jobs. Communities must have the freedom to address those impacts in a way that best suits the local needs.

A "by-right" development policy puts the power with the developer and directly undermines local voices, putting communities and our environment at risk.

We believe in a California that is home to people of all economic, social, and ethnic backgrounds. Instead of deregulating market rate housing, we need a state policy

that restores full funding for affordable housing and local policies that support development of housing options that are accessible and affordable for the majority of Californians.

About the Coalition

Coalition includes more than 60 organizations with members and roots in racially and economically diverse urban areas across California, including environmental organizations and labor representing over 2 million working families:

ALLIANCE FOR COMMUNITY TRANSIT (ACT-LA)
ALLIANCE OF CALIFORNIANS FOR COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT (ACCE)
ANTI-EVICTION MAPPING PROJECT
ASIAN PACIFIC ENVIRONMENTAL NETWORK
AZUL
BERKELEY TENANTS UNION
CALIFORNIA CALLS
CALIFORNIA COASTAL PROTECTION NETWORK
CALIFORNIA LABOR FEDERATION
CALIFORNIA LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION VOTERS
CAUSA JUSTA :: JUST CAUSE
CENTER FOR SUSTAINABLE NEIGHBORHOODS
CHINATOWN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CENTER
CHINESE PROGRESSIVE ASSOCIATION
COALITION FOR ECONOMIC SURVIVAL
COMMUNITY LEGAL SERVICES IN EAST PALO ALTO
COUNCIL OF COMMUNITY HOUSING ORGANIZATIONS
COURAGE CAMPAIGN
EAST BAY ASIAN LOCAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
EAST LA COMMUNITY CORPORATION
ESPERANZA COMMUNITY HOUSING CORPORATION
FAITH IN ACTION-BAY AREA
FAITH IN COMMUNITY - FRESNO
GAMALIEL OF CALIFORNIA
HOUSING RIGHTS COMMITTEE OF SAN FRANCISCO
INQUILINOS UNIDOS (UNITED TENANTS)
JOBS WITH JUSTICE SAN FRANCISCO
KOREATOWN IMMIGRANT WORKERS ALLIANCE
LA VOICE
LITTLE TOKYO SERVICES CENTER
LONG BEACH RESIDENTS EMPOWERED (LIBRE)
LOS ANGELES AND ORANGE COUNTY BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL
LOS ANGELES COUNTY BICYCLE COALITION
LOS ANGELES COUNTY FEDERATION OF LABOR
MISSION ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

NORTH BAY JOBS WITH JUSTICE
PACT: PEOPLE ACTING IN COMMUNITY TOGETHER
PEOPLE ORGANIZING TO DEMAND ENVIRONMENTAL & ECONOMIC RIGHTS
(PODER)
PHYSICIANS FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY - LA
PICO CALIFORNIA
PLACER PEOPLE OF FAITH TOGETHER
PLANNING AND CONSERVATION LEAGUE
PUBLIC ADVOCATES INC.
PUBLIC COUNSEL
RIGHT TO THE CITY ALLIANCE
SACRED HEART HOUSING ACTION COMMITTEE
SAN FRANCISCO TENANTS UNION
SANTA MONICANS FOR RENTERS' RIGHTS
SEIU 1021
SIERRA CLUB
SILICON VALLEY DE-BUG
SOUTHEAST ASIAN COMMUNITY ALLIANCE
STATE BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL
STRATEGIC ACTIONS FOR A JUST ECONOMY (SAJE)
TENANTS TOGETHER
TENEMOS QUE RECLAMAR Y UNIDOS SALVAR LA TIERRA-SOUTH LA (T.R.U.S.T.
SOUTH LA)
THAI COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
THE NORTH BAY ORGANIZING PROJECT
UFCW LOCAL 5
UFCW LOCAL 648
UNITED EDUCATORS OF SAN FRANCISCO
URBAN HABITAT
WOMEN ORGANIZING RESOURCES, KNOWLEDGE AND SERVICES (WORKS)