



## CITY OF FORT BRAGG

*Incorporated August 5, 1889*  
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February 13, 2017

The Honorable Toni G. Atkins  
Member, California State Senate  
State Capitol, Room 4072  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
FAX: 916-651-4939

### **RE: SB 2 (Atkins) Building Homes and Jobs Act** **NOTICE OF SUPPORT**

Dear Senator Atkins:

The City of Fort Bragg supports your SB 2, the Building Homes and Jobs Act. This measure would generate hundreds of millions of dollars per year for affordable rental or ownership housing, supportive housing, emergency shelters, transitional housing and other housing needs via a \$75 recordation fee on specified real estate documents.

Cities, including the City of Fort Bragg are eager to help encourage the construction of affordable housing, but with the loss of over \$1 billion per year of redevelopment housing funds they lack the resources to do so. While the timeliness of the environmental review, permitting, and approval processes can always be improved to help reduce costs, affordable housing projects require some form of financial assistance. This measure is a significant step in the right direction.

The City of Fort Bragg has a severe affordable housing shortage, with 49% of all Fort Bragg households spending more than 30% of their income on housing. In other words housing is unaffordable for almost half of Fort Bragg households. The situation for renters is even more dire, with 57% of all renters spending more than 30% of household income on rent.

In the past five years, Fort Bragg has built just one 25 unit affordable housing project for seniors. This project was funded with tax exempt bond financing and USDA funds, and the USDA rural affordable housing program has since expired. Active State participation is critical for successful tax exempt bond financing of affordable housing projects, especially as the Federal Government has effectively stopped funding affordable housing in rural communities.

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SB 2 would provide an ongoing, permanent state source of funding for much needed affordable housing projects.

For these reasons, the City of Fort Bragg **supports** SB 2.

Sincerely,

Lindy Peters  
Mayor

Will Lee  
Vice Mayor

Michael Cimolino  
Councilmember

Bernie Norvell  
Councilmember

Dave Turner  
Councilmember

cc: Senator Jim Beall, Chair, Senate Housing and Transportation Committee, fax: 916-651-4915  
Senator Mike McGuire, fax: 916-651-4902  
Assembly Member Jim Wood, fax: 916-319-2102  
Alison Hughes, Consultant, Senate Housing and Transportation Committee, fax: 916-445-2209  
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