



March 16, 2022

The Honorable Buffy Wicks
California State Assembly
1021 O Street, Suite 4240
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Assembly Bill (AB) 2244 - Housing Production on Religious Properties - Support

Dear Assemblymember Wicks,

On behalf of All Home, we write in support of AB 2244 (Wicks) which would reduce residential parking requirements for newly constructed religious institutions and allow the development of critically needed affordable housing projects. All Home is a Bay Area organization that advances regional solutions to disrupt the cycles of poverty and homelessness and create more economic mobility for people with extremely low incomes.

California's religious communities are leading innovative efforts to redevelop portions of their property to alleviate the state's housing crisis. Religious institutions across the state are working with cities from Oakland to Los Angeles to discuss turning underused land into housing. However, plans to build housing on newly proposed developments have hit roadblocks. Current state law eases parking requirements for housing on religious properties, but local governments have interpreted that it only applies to existing religious institutions, not new ones that are proposed to be developed. These interpretations strictly limit the applicability of this important housing option for all future congregations that may wish to support and address the housing needs of their local community.

AB 2244 will clarify that the reduction of residential parking requirements for housing development on religious properties applies equally to existing and proposed religious institutions. This is an important step towards helping low-income Californians find stable housing opportunities, and preventing further homelessness in our state.

Thank you for your leadership on these critical housing and homelessness issues and for all these reasons, we support AB 2244.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark purple ink that reads "Tomiquia Moss".

Tomiquia Moss, Founder and CEO of All Home