



April 12, 2022

The Honorable Brian Maienschein
1021 O Street, Room 5640
Sacramento, CA 94293

Re: AB 2483: Housing for individuals experiencing homelessness - SUPPORT

Dear Assemblymember Maienschein:

On behalf of All Home, I am writing in support of your bill, AB 2483. 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. AB 2483 furthers our organization's goals by using existing resources to foster the creation of supportive housing for older adults and people living with disabilities who are experiencing homelessness and facing institutionalization.

Medi-Cal currently offers programs that allow people who face risk of institutionalization to live independently. These Medi-Cal programs include the Program for All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE), the Assisted Living Waiver (ALW), and the Home and Community-Based Alternatives Waiver (HCBAW). Additionally, the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) administers capital funding through California's Multifamily Housing Program (MHP).

Yet even still, barriers exist to using Medi-Cal programs to provide services in supportive housing that California helps fund.

- PACE, ALW, and HCBAW providers often do not have relationships with developers creating independent housing;
- Providers often exclude people experiencing homelessness from programs, due to federal rules requiring that people receive services in home and community-based settings;
- Housing and Medi-Cal programs are siloed, which puts the burden on people experiencing homelessness to navigate these programs separately; and
- State law raises questions of whether Medi-Cal-funded intensive services trigger licensing requirements.

AB 2483 will resolve these barriers. Under the bill, HCD will offer developers accessing the MHP program incentives to create supportive housing for older adults and people living with disabilities eligible for PACE, ALW, or HCBAW. By aligning eligibility and offering incentives to developers, the bill promotes partnerships between developers and Medi-Cal providers. The bill also makes minor clarifications to State law that housing created under the bill would not require licensing.

Finally, the bill requires HCD and our Medi-Cal agency, the Department of Health Care Services, to work together to reduce barriers to people accessing housing with services that keep them out of institutions.

Using these existing resources, AB 2483 will reduce silos between health and housing, allow people to live in housing in their community of choice, scale up best practices in funding housing and services, and provide public-facing accountability for equitable outcomes. For these reasons, we support this important bill and thank you for your leadership.

Sincerely,

Tomiquia Moss

Tomiquia Moss, Founder and CEO of All Home