



May 6, 2022

The Honorable Buffy Wicks
Chair, Assembly Housing and Community Development Committee
1020 N Street, Room 156
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: ACA 14 (Wicks) The HOPE Act – SUPPORT

Dear Chair Wicks:

On behalf of All Home, I am writing in support of the HOPE Act, ACA 14, which will establish a ten-year funding commitment to address the state's affordable housing and homelessness crisis.

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.

The pandemic has shown us all the essential role affordable housing plays in every California community — providing shelter, support, and community to some of the state's most vulnerable populations. California currently has a gap of 1.2 million homes affordable to lower income households and on any given night, roughly 160,000 people in California experience homelessness. The Governor and Legislature have demonstrated their commitment to addressing the affordable housing and homelessness crisis in recent years, using budget surpluses to support our state's most effective housing programs with much-needed, one-time investments. One-time investments will not get us to the lasting solution that we all would like to see—where housing is right and not a privilege. ACA 14 will build on recent investments and provide a permanent, ongoing source of funding at the scale needed to close the state's shameful gaps in affordable housing and our homelessness response system.

ACA 14 will dedicate five percent of the General Fund for the next ten years to fund solutions to end homelessness and build affordable housing. Based on the 2022 budget revenues of \$200 billion, this investment would be approximately \$10 billion each year. This constitutional modification explicitly protects existing constitutional budget commitments including funding for schools and the state's Rainy Day Fund. Additionally, the Business, Consumer Services, and Housing Agency would be required to develop a ten-year

investment strategy with outcome metrics to ensure that funding results in reduced homelessness and creates more affordable housing.

A multi-year commitment of this scale will transform our state's approach to addressing the needs of our most vulnerable residents. It will give cities and counties the opportunity and certainty they need to take innovative steps and develop multi-year programs that create a realistic plan to reduce homelessness, rather than a sporadic patchwork of short-term programs or capital projects that have no funding source for ongoing operations.

Thank you for your leadership on this important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tomiquia Moss". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tomiquia Moss, Founder and CEO of All Home