



A world where everyone has a decent place to live.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY ADVOCACY ACTION ALERT!

Dear Affordable Housing Advocates,

In February, Assembly Speaker Toni Atkins introduced AB 1335, the Building Homes and Jobs Act, establishing a "permanent source" of funding for affordable housing at the state level.

The Building Homes and Jobs Act utilizes a pay as you go approach. It has the potential to generate hundreds of millions of dollars annually for affordable housing through a \$75 fee on real estate recorded documents *except* those documents associated with home sales. Funds generated will leverage an additional \$2 to \$3 billion in federal, local, and bank investment.



This bill is *extremely* important to Habitat for Humanity and we are asking you to join us in making affordable housing a top priority by reaching out to your state representatives in support of Assembly Speaker Toni Atkins' package of affordable housing legislation coming up for a vote in the State Assembly on June 4.

Can We Count On Your Support?

The bill package includes:

- AB 35 (Chiu and Atkins)
- AB 1335 (Atkins)
- AB 90 (Chau)
- AB 1056 (Atkins)

AB 1335 (Atkins) would create an ongoing, predictable source of funding to fund the state housing trust fund. Until now, California's housing trust fund has been funded by periodic, voter-approved housing bonds that eventually run dry. For every \$500 million generated by AB 1335, 29,000 well-paying jobs will be created. The source for all this economic activity would be a \$75 document recording fee on real-estate transactions (excluding commercial and residential home sales). The fee would be capped at \$225. These funds would be used for the development, acquisition, rehabilitation, and preservation of housing, including transitional and permanent rental housing, workforce housing, supportive services, foreclosure mitigation, and homeownership programs.

AB 35 (Chiu and Atkins) would increase the percentage of funding a nonprofit developer could use from state tax credits from the current 13% to 50%. It will also help remove the biggest barrier to starting construction on shovel-ready affordable home developments by expanding the successful



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State Housing Tax Credit by \$300 million annually. This in turn would enable affordable home developers to access an additional \$600 million in federal funds.

AB 90 (Chau) creates a framework for how California will spend funds received from the National Housing Trust Fund, which (with the recent lift of the suspension that prevented funding of the trust fund) are expected to begin flowing to California in 2016.

AB 1056 (Atkins) targets 33 percent of the budget savings under Proposition 47 for use in a Rapid Re-housing Program aimed at helping house formerly incarcerated persons who suffer from mental health or substance use issues.

Help Us Pass These Important California Bills and Budget Asks.

These housing bills were designed to get California building again, creating jobs and making affordable homes available to Californians who are struggling to make ends meet. Did you know?

- LA County has seven of the ten zip codes with the worst housing overcrowding in the nation and 64 zip codes that are in the worst half percent for housing overcrowding
- Los Angeles metro area renters have the highest median rent burden in the nation, with 47% of monthly income devoted to rent.
- More than 50% of extremely low income households in Los Angeles County are elderly or disabled.
- Median rents in Los Angeles County increased by 25% between 2000 and 2012, while the median income declined by 9%.

Take Action! Call your state representatives and send letters of support today. The bills must pass out of the Assembly by **June 5** and out of the Senate by **September 11**. Visit <http://www.housingca.org/#!action-center/chn4> for more information about each bill and for sample letters of support. Thank you.

In partnership,

Erin Rank
President and CEO
Habitat LA