



City of
SANTA CLARITA

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June 22, 2017

Cameron Smyth
Mayor

Laurene Weste
Mayor Pro Tem

Bob Kellar
Councilmember

Marsha McLean
Councilmember

Bill Miranda
Councilmember

The Honorable Laura Friedman
California State Assembly, District 43
State Capitol Building, Room 2137
Sacramento, CA 94249

SUBJECT: AB 1350 (Friedman): OPPOSE

Dear Assembly Member Friedman:

The City of Santa Clarita respectfully opposes AB 1350, which places a financial penalty on cities and counties who do not meet specified regional housing needs assessment obligations.

On June 13, 2017, the Santa Clarita City Council voted unanimously to oppose AB 1350. This bill, as amended on March 27, 2017, requires a city or county that has not met at least one-third of its share of the regional housing need for low-income and very low-income housing, to pay a penalty to the Department of Housing and Community Development.

The Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) is mandated by State Housing Law as part of a periodic process of updating local housing elements of the General Plan. The RHNA quantifies the need for housing within each jurisdiction during specified planning periods. Communities use the RHNA in land use planning, prioritizing local resource allocation, and in deciding how to address identified existing and future housing needs resulting from population, employment, and household growth.

Local agencies do not build housing and the RHNA is not a production number but a requirement to plan for and zone adequate sites to accommodate the affordable housing portion of the RHNA. The City continues to work with the State Department of Housing and Community Development, the Southern California Association of Governments, and local developers in creating an environment that is appropriate for the construction of all types of housing in our community. This bill would impose significant financial penalties and onerous requirements on local agencies.



Honorable Friedman

June 22, 2017

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For these reasons, the City of Santa Clarita opposes AB 1350. Should you or your staff require any further information regarding the Santa Clarita City Council's position of this bill, please feel free to contact Intergovernmental Relations Manager Michael P. Murphy at (661) 255-4384 or mmurphy@santa-clarita.com.

Sincerely,



Cameron Smyth
Mayor

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cc: Members of the City Council
Senator Scott Wilk
Senator Henry Stern
Assembly Member Dante Acosta
Assembly Member Tom Lackey
Kenneth W. Striplin, City Manager
Frank Oviedo, Assistant City Manager
Michael Murphy, Intergovernmental Relations Manager
Jennifer Quan, League of California Cities