



## CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS

455 NORTH REXFORD DRIVE ▪ BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA 90210

Lester J. Friedman, Mayor

April 8, 2021

The Honorable Laurie Davies  
California State Assembly, 73rd District  
State Capitol, Room 3141  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 617 (Davies) Planning and zoning: regional housing needs: exchange of allocation.  
City of Beverly Hills – Support

Dear Assemblymember Davies,

On behalf of the City of Beverly Hills, I am pleased to write to you in SUPPORT of your AB 617, which would authorize a city or county, by agreement, to transfer all or a portion of its allocation of regional housing need to another city or county.

Every eight years, the state undergoes a Regional Housing Needs Assessment planning process. Prior to the sixth Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) cycle, a city or county could transfer all or a portion of its RHNA allocation to another city or county. Many cities facing physical constraints or that were otherwise unable to meet their housing elements had utilized the RHNA transfer mechanism to meet their housing allocations. However, in 2017, AB 1771 (Bloom) eliminated jurisdiction's ability to trade and transfer RHNA allocation.

AB 617 would authorize a city or county, by agreement, to transfer all or a portion of its allocation of regional housing need to another city or county. The bill would allow the transferring city to pay the transferee city or county an amount determined by that agreement, as well as a surcharge to offset the impacts and associated costs of the additional housing on the transferee city.

In recent years, the State has taken action to drive more housing production, often at the expense of local control and with few incentives for local collaboration. Currently, should Beverly Hills or any other local jurisdiction enter into a joint venture to build more affordable housing, depending on where the project is built, one City may receive no RHNA credit while the other would receive full RHNA credit. Like transportation in our area, housing is also a regional matter and needs to be addressed as such with cities working together.

For these reasons, the City of Beverly Hills SUPPORTS your AB 617. Thank you for authoring this important measure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lester J. Friedman", with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Lester J. Friedman  
Mayor, City of Beverly Hills

cc: Members and Consultants, Assembly Housing and Community Development Committee  
The Honorable Ben Allen, 26th Senate District  
The Honorable Richard Bloom, 50th Assembly District  
Andrew K. Antwih, Shaw Yoder Antwih Schmelzer & Lange