



County Administrative Office
Governmental & Legislative Affairs

Josh Candelaria
Governmental & Legislative
Affairs Director

March 31, 2016

The Honorable Marc Steinorth
California State Assembly
State Capitol
Sacramento

Re: AB 1968 (Steinorth) – As amended March 17, 2016 – SUPPORT

Dear Assemblyman Steinorth:

San Bernardino County is pleased to support AB 1968, which would allocate 10 percent of the cap-and-trade funding designated for the Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities program to medium-density housing projects.

The Strategic Growth Council (SGC) administers the Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities Program (AHSC), which is supported by a continuous allocation of 20 percent of revenue received in the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund. The program supports projects across the state designed to facilitate access to jobs and housing and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. These include housing and transportation projects geared at infill development.

However, the guidelines developed by the SGC have density requirements that disqualify otherwise worthy projects in suburban and less affluent regions of the state, including the inland region of Southern California. The AHSC program is designed to help disadvantaged communities, especially those with poor air quality. This region has the majority of identified disadvantaged communities in the state and the worst air quality in the nation, but received a disproportionately small fraction of the AHSC awards in the first two funding rounds.

AB 1968 will dedicate 10 percent of the funding available to the SGC to local governments for the purpose of developing medium-density residential developments. Of these allocated funds, at least 20 percent will be set aside for projects for lower income households. This will allow our region to compete more effectively for the AHSC funding, which will benefit our residents who need affordable housing, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions through more compact development.

For these reasons, the County of San Bernardino is pleased to support AB 1968. If you have any questions, please contact Josh Candelaria, Director of Governmental and Legislative Affairs at (909) 387-4821 or jcandelaria@sbcounty.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James Ramos".

JAMES RAMOS
Board of Supervisors Chairman
Third District Supervisor
County of San Bernardino

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

ROBERT A. LOVINGOOD
Vice Chairman, First District

JANICE RUTHERFORD
Second District

JAMES RAMOS
Chairman, Third District

CURT HAGMAN
Fourth District

JOSIE GONZALES
Fifth District

GREGORY C. DEVEREAUX
Chief Executive Officer