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March 18, 2025

Assemblymember Matt Haney
Chair, Assembly Housing and Community Development Committee
1020 N Street, Room 156
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Assembly Bill 610 - OPPOSE

Dear Assemblymember Haney,

The California Contract Cities Association (CCCA) writes to express our opposition to Assembly Bill 610, which would require a city's housing element to include a governmental constraints disclosure statement. The bill also prohibits cities from adopting any new or amended governmental constraint, or a more stringent revision of a governmental constraint, during planning unless cities meet specific preconditions.

As California's Housing Element Law has expanded, its rules and requirements have become increasingly complex. The burden of complying with the Law falls on local governments, and that burden has grown heavier over the years. While CCCA remains committed to addressing housing needs across the State, CCCA stands firmly opposed to legislation like AB 610, which adds new layers of requirements to the State's Housing Element Law and limits cities' local policing powers over housing developments in their jurisdictions. Notably, cities are already required to provide a comprehensive analysis of potential and actual governmental constraints as part of their housing element. Types of constraints that must be analyzed include local processing and permit procedures, land use controls, historic preservation practices, and more. AB 610's requirements are unnecessary and excessive, which is why we oppose the bill.

CCCA represents 80 cities throughout California. For more than 65 years, CCCA's mission has been to advance the benefits of the contracting model and strengthen local control. With collaborative governance as a focal point, CCCA has advanced its mission through education, advocacy, networking, and legislative access to protect and enhance the quality of life for more than 7.5 million residents. As a matter of policy, our organization supports and defends the rights of cities on policy issues pertinent to them. We thank you in advance for your consideration of our opposition to AB 610.

Yours in service,

Marcel Rodarte, Executive Director

CC: Members of the Assembly Housing and Community Development Committee