



CALIFORNIA COLLABORATIVE FOR LONG TERM SERVICES & SUPPORTS (CCLTSS)

April 25, 2017

The Honorable Sebastian Ridley-Thomas
Chair, Assembly Committee on Revenue and Taxation
State Capitol, Room 2176
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 71 (Chiu) Affordable Housing - SUPPORT

Dear Assembly Member Ridley-Thomas:

The California Collaborative for Long Term Services and Supports is a coalition of 32 statewide aging and disability organizations that promote dignity and independence in long-term living. Our members represent consumers, providers, advocates, labor and insurers, and ultimately we speak on behalf of millions of California seniors and people with disabilities as well as the people who serve them.

Our mission is to support policies that prevent unnecessary institutionalization and provide the means for more cost-effective community living. We are writing to express our support for AB 71 (Chiu), which will help build affordable housing that will enable Californians who low-income and are aging or disabled, to live in the community.

Assembly Bill 71 will increase California's investment in low-income housing by \$300 million and leverage an additional \$600 million in federal housing resources that would otherwise go unclaimed, building an estimated 3,000 affordable homes each year.

This measure builds on the proven success of the Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC), which has produced or preserved more than 300,000 homes, created 340,000 jobs, and generated \$32 billion in local income and \$12.7 billion in tax revenues in

California since 1986. The bill strengthens California's ability to use the LIHTC program as efficiently and productively as possible and stops the return of hundreds of millions of dollars back to the federal government that could otherwise be used to finance additional affordable developments in California.

Almost 20 percent of Californians are over age 60 – a number expected to double in 40 years. With the increase in the size of California's senior population comes an increased demand for affordable housing. Affordable housing can increase independence and provides access to community based services, such as transportation and meal programs. Affordable and accessible housing is a necessary element in California's system of long-term services and supports, and will help avoid costs to the Medi-Cal program and the state budget for unnecessary and expensive institutional care.

We urge your support for AB 71.

Sincerely,



Laurel Mildred, MSW

For the California Collaborative

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cc: The Honorable Anthony Rendon, Speaker of the Assembly

The Honorable Chad Mayes, Minority Floor Leader

The Honorable Members of the Assembly Committee on Revenue and Taxation