



housing and economic rights advocates



RECLAIM OUR POWER!
Utility Justice Campaign



JUSTICE IN AGING
FIGHTING SENIOR POVERTY THROUGH LAW



SUPPORTIVE HOUSING ALLIANCE



East Bay Housing Organizations

April 23, 2025

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

RE: SUPPORT OF CALIFORNIA HOUSING JUSTICE ACT--AB 1165

Dear Chair Haney,

On behalf of dozens of organizations committed to housing justice, we write in support of AB 1165, the California Housing Justice Act, which would require the State of California to create a financing plan to provide ongoing funding at the scale needed to fully address housing insecurity and homelessness around the state.

California continues to face a crushing housing crisis. Over the course of 2024, over 339,000 Californians experienced homelessness. Meanwhile, the State has a shortfall of nearly 1.3 million homes that are affordable to low-income households. As a result, 78% of extremely low-income households are paying more than half their income on rent. This has led to a reality where millions of Californians are making hard choices every month between paying the rent and buying groceries, seeking needed medical care, or buying school supplies for their kids. It's no wonder that survey after survey show homelessness and housing affordability as the most pressing issues for California voters.

Despite the salience of this issue, California has failed to make consistent, ongoing investments in affordable housing, homelessness, and tenant protection programs. While considerable one-time funding was invested as a result of the budget surpluses over the last several years, **ongoing funding for housing and homelessness constitutes less than 0.5% of the state's annual budget.** This dynamic is inexplicable—that a state with a \$300 billion annual budget is unable to muster ongoing funding at scale to face its highest-priority challenge. State investment is more critical than ever before, as the federal government's commitment to funding housing and services is in a moment of unprecedented uncertainty.

AB 1165 addresses this challenge by requiring the state to create the California Housing Justice Fund and make the investments needed at scale to solve this crisis. The bill would require the state to create financing plans for ongoing investments at the scale necessary to solve homelessness and the housing affordability crisis, an essential step in ensuring that funding to address housing insecurity and homelessness is reliable and sufficient. Taken together, these actions would ensure the state is finally tackling this challenge with appropriate urgency to provide security and stability to all of its residents. We hope you will join us in supporting this legislation.

Sincerely,



ACLU California Action

All Home

Abode Services

Alliance of Californians for Community Empowerment (ACCE)

Bring California Home Coalition

Buccola Family Homeless Advocacy Clinic

Compass Family Services

Congregations Organized for Prophetic Engagement (COPE)

Corporation for Supportive Housing

Destination: Home

Disability Rights California

Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund

Downtown Women's Center

East Bay Housing Organizations

Episcopal Community Services

Eviction Defense Collaborative

Evolve California

Homeless United for Friendship and Freedom

Housing and Economic Rights Advocates

Housing California

Housing is a Human Right OC

Housing Now!

Human Impact Partners

Imperial Valley Equity and Justice

Inner City Law Center

Justice in Aging

LA Progressive

Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights of the San Francisco Bay Area

Little Tokyo Service Center

My Friend's Place

National Alliance to End Homelessness

National Homelessness Law Center

NoHo Home Alliance

PATH

PolicyLink

PowerCA Action

Public Advocates

Reclaim Our Power Utility Justice Campaign

South Tower Community Land Trust

San Francisco Community Land Trust

SSG HOPICS

Strategic Actions for a Just Economy (SAJE)

Supportive Housing Alliance

Sycamores

Tenants Together

The Bride's Chamber

The Center in Hollywood

The Sacramento Homeless Union

Western Center on Law and Poverty

Western Regional Advocacy Project