

## CALIFORNIA COLLABORATIVE FOR LONG TERM SERVICES & SUPPORTS (CCLTSS)

April 25, 2017

The Honorable Ricardo Lara Chair, Senate Committee on Appropriations State Capitol, Room 5050 Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 3 (Beall) Affordable Housing Bond Act of 2018 – SUPPORT

## Dear Senator Lara:

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. We speak on behalf of millions of California seniors and people with disabilities as well as the people who serve them.

We are writing to express our support for SB 3 (Beall), which will increase California's supply of low-income housing and assist those with disabilities and chronic illnesses to remain living in communities rather than being forced into unnecessary and costly institutionalization.

The availability of low-income housing in California is reaching a crisis level. State dollars to leverage federal funds and private investment are the lowest in years and as a result, California's private housing market is not meeting demand. This is largely because three of California's affordable housing development funding sources have disappeared — redevelopment funding, voter-approved bond funding, and capital advance grant funding under the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Section 202

program. Overall, the state and federal governments have reduced investments in affordable housing in California by a combined total of over \$1.5 billion annually.

SB 3 would significantly increase California's supply of affordable homes while creating jobs and spurring economic growth. It would open up a source of funding for the development of new affordable housing units, and would help the state build tens of thousands of affordable homes for our most vulnerable citizens, consequently avoiding costs to the Medi-Cal program and the state budget for unnecessary and expensive institutional care.

We urge your support for SB 3.

Sincerely,

Laurel Mildred, MSW

Laurel a. Mildred

For the California Collaborative

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cc: The Honorable Kevin de León, Senate President Pro Tempore
The Honorable Patricia Bates, Senate Minority Leader
The Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Appropriations