



American Planning Association
California Chapter

Creating Great Communities for All

May 26, 2020

Assembly Member Susan Eggman
California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 4117
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Support as Amended for AB 2580 (Eggman) Streamlining for Conversations of Hotels and Motels

Dear Assembly Member Eggman,

The American Planning Association, California Chapter (APA California) is pleased to move to a full support position on your bill, AB 2580, as amended on May 22. AB 2580 provides a streamlined process for converting hotels and motels into permanent housing when a project includes a specified percentage of units affordable to lower-income households.

APA California appreciates the recent amendment that ensures the requirements of AB 2580 don't override existing local ordinances where a higher percentage of affordability is required than under the default state rules. Some jurisdictions, like the City of Los Angeles, already have programs for hotel/motel conversions that have been successfully implemented to produce affordable and supportive housing.

As California continues to face an unprecedented housing crisis, compounded by the recent and ongoing impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, APA California supports efforts to streamline and encourage housing development. APA California appreciates your efforts on this important issue. We also appreciate the time your staff has spent to discuss our concerns and with the amendments in print, we urge an aye vote. If you have any questions, please contact Lauren De Valencia, Stefan/George Associates, APA California's lobbyist, at 443-5301, lauren@stefangeorge.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Eric Phillips'.

Eric Phillips
Vice President Policy and Legislation
APA California

cc: Assembly Appropriations Committee
Assembly Republican Caucus
The Governor
The Office of Planning and Research