March 5, 2021

The Honorable Nancy Skinner
State Capitol, Room 5094
Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT SUPPORT FOR SB 290 (SKINNER) Density Bonus Law Benefits for Moderate-Income and Lower-Income Student Housing Units

The American Planning Association, California Chapter (APA California) is pleased to support your bill, SB 290, which provides additional Density Bonus benefits for moderate-income units and lower income student housing units.

APA California supports efforts to streamline and encourage housing development, particularly in a time when California continues to face an unprecedented housing crisis, compounded by the ongoing impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. APA supports providing higher density and other benefits in exchange for higher levels of affordability in projects, including moderate-income units and student units, similar to enhanced density bonus ordinances adopted and working successfully in many cities and counties around the state.

Finally, since SB 290 has been re-introduced from your bill last year, SB 1085 (2020), we appreciate that a number of amendments specifically worked on with our organization remain in the bill this year. If you have any questions, please contact our lobbyist, Lauren De Valencia with Stefan/George Associates, lauren@stefangeorge.com, 916-443-5301.

Sincerely,

Eric Phillips
Vice President Policy and Legislation
APA California

cc: Senate Governance and Finance Committee
Senate Housing Committee
Senate Republican Caucus
The Governor
The Office of Planning and Research