



American Planning Association  
**California Chapter**

*Creating Great Communities for All*

May 23, 2023

The Honorable Senator Mike McGuire  
1021 O Street, Room 8610  
Sacramento, California 95814

**RE: SB 18 (McGuire) as amended. Tribal Housing Reconstitution and Resiliency Act – SUPPORT**

Dear Senator McGuire:

The American Planning Association, California Chapter (APA California) is pleased to **support** your SB 18, which would create the Tribal Housing Grant Program (THGP), in the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) for the construction and rehabilitation of rental and for-sale housing, specific for tribal communities.

APA California is a non-profit organization made up of practicing planners, citizens and public officials committed to advancing the practice of local, regional, and statewide planning throughout urban, suburban, and rural California. As adopted in APA California's Legislative Platform, *Plan California*, our organization is supportive of efforts that promote and create equitable, inclusive policies, programs, and practices that acknowledge past harms, address current inequities, and empower communities toward a more just future.

As California continues to grapple with an ongoing housing crisis, tribal communities have historically been excluded from benefiting from various state-administered housing programs, even though California tribes represent a disproportionate number of the state's homeless population. While state funded grant programs have changed over the years, many current programs are not readily accessible to tribal communities and the state needs to do more to ensure grant funding opportunities are accessible to tribal communities. SB 18 will address current challenges by creating a new and separate housing program specific to tribal needs, to help address funding opportunities for housing in tribal communities.

For these reasons, APA California is pleased to support SB 18 and appreciates your efforts on this issue. If you have any questions, please contact Lauren De Valencia, Stefan/George Associates, APA California's lobbyist, at 916 443-5301, [lauren@stefangeorge.com](mailto:lauren@stefangeorge.com).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'ED'.

Erik de Kok, AICP  
Vice President Policy and Legislation  
APA California

cc: Republican Caucus  
The Governor  
The Office of Planning and Research  
The Department of Housing and Community Development