



American Planning Association
California Chapter

Creating Great Communities for All

March 29, 2024

The Honorable Senate Pro Tempore Mike McGuire
California State Senate
1021 O Street
Sacramento, California 95814

RE: SB 1187 (McGuire) Housing programs: Tribal Housing Reconstitution and Resiliency Act – SUPPORT

Dear Senator McGuire:

The American Planning Association, California Chapter (APA California) is pleased to support your SB 1187, which would create the Tribal Housing Grant Program (THGP), in the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) to be allocated for specific purposes, including, among others, housing and housing-related program services for affordable housing, housing and community development project costs, and management services for affordable housing.

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 1187 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 1187 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.

Sincerely,

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

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

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