



March 25, 2026

The Honorable Jose Solache
California State Assembly
1021 O St Ste 5110
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 2002 Local government assistance: Regional Early Action Planning Fund.

Dear Assemblymember Solache,

On behalf of the California State Association of Counties (CSAC), representing all 58 California counties, the League of California Cities (CalCities), the Urban Counties of California (UCC), the American Planning Association, California Chapter, and the Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC) we write to express our support for AB 2002 (Solache), which codifies the Regional Early Action Planning (REAP 1.0) program, providing a critically needed framework to support state, regional, and local housing planning responsibilities.

California's cities and continues to face a severe and long-standing housing shortage. Meeting the state's housing needs requires robust, data-driven planning, strong intergovernmental coordination, and reliable tools that help local jurisdictions produce and preserve housing at all income levels. AB 2002 directly supports this goal by codifying a proven program that has already helped cities and regional governments modernize planning, enhance technical capacity, and increase housing readiness.

At the same time, the state's Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) requirements continue to grow in complexity and cost for cities, counties and regional planning agencies. These local governments must now analyze additional income categories, conduct interviews with households with special housing needs, meet expanded equity and environmental standards, and undergo enhanced review by the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD). These responsibilities reflect important state priorities—but they cannot be met without stable, dedicated support.

AB 2002 provides exactly that. By codifying REAP 1.0 and establishing an ongoing framework to support regional governments and local jurisdictions, the bill strengthens the foundation of California's housing planning system. It will ensure that cities and counties can continue to access critical technical assistance, data tools, and capacity-building resources necessary to meet housing and zoning obligations. Moreover, AB 2002 reinforces the integrity of the RHNA process and advances the state's long-term housing goals.

For these reasons, CSAC, CalCities, and UCC are pleased to support your bill. If you have additional questions, please contact Mark Neuburger with CSAC at mneuburger@counties.org, Brady Guertin with CalCities at bguertin@calcities.org, Tracy Rhine with RCRC at trhine@rcrcnet.org, or Chris Lee with UCC at clee@politicogroup.com.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Mark Neuburger
Legislative Advocate
California State Association of Counties



Brady Guertin
Legislative Advocate
League of California Cities



Christopher Lee
Legislative Advocate
Urban Counties of California



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