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April 21, 2015

The Honorable Toni G. Atkins  
Speaker, California State Assembly  
State Capitol, Room 219  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: AB 1335 Building Homes and Job Act – SUPPORT**

Dear Assembly Speaker Atkins:

On behalf of the Cities Association of Santa Clara County, I write to you in support of AB 1335, legislation that would establish a permanent funding source for affordable housing through a \$75 recording fee on real estate transactions excluding home sales.

The Cities Association is a collaboration of the 15 cities in Santa Clara County and advocates on behalf of the cities to improve the quality of life for the people of our county. The Cities Association has prioritized affordable housing for the past three years due to the challenges our cities face in providing low-income housing for our communities. With the loss of over \$1 billion per year of redevelopment housing funds, cities lack the resources to do so.

AB 1335 would provide an ongoing permanent source of funding, generating hundreds of millions of dollars for affordable housing, and allow the state to fund existing programs at reliable levels. The Building Homes and Job Act will help leverage additional federal, local, and private investment. In turn, it will increase construction, building, and availability of affordable housing; ultimately, this is good for our economy, budget, job creation, and families.

For these reasons, the Cities Association supports AB 1335. Thank you for your invaluable leadership on the critical issue of affordable housing.

Sincerely,

Jason T. Baker  
President, Cities Association of Santa Clara County  
Vice Mayor, City of Campbell

CC: Chair and Members, Assembly Committee on Housing & Community  
Development