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July 11, 2024

The Honorable Buffy Wicks
Chair, Assembly Committee on Appropriations
1020 N St, Room 157
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: AB 1893 (Wicks) Housing Accountability Act: housing disapprovals.
Notice of Opposition**

Dear Chair Wicks,

The City of Brentwood regrettably must take an **oppose unless amended** position on your measure AB 1893, which would place guardrails on “builder’s remedy” projects; reduce affordable housing minimums; and prohibit local jurisdictions from denying certain housing developments even if they are meeting or exceeding state allocated housing goals.

We appreciate your desire to limit the application of “builder’s remedy” projects by restricting where these projects can occur, limiting density, and allowing the use of objective development standards in some circumstances.

However, we strongly believe less focus should be on what happens if we do not adopt a housing element that substantially complies with the law, and more time and attention should be focused on how the state can partner with us and ensure that all jurisdictions come into compliance. Cities have worked diligently with the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) to draft housing plans that accommodate their fair share of housing at all income levels. These complex plans can take years to develop and involve extensive feedback from HCD. This feedback often lacks clear direction regarding actions needed for a city to come into compliance.

The City of Brentwood believes that AB 1893 could be improved with amendments. What is really needed is for the state to specify how cities can get a compliant housing element to avoid things like the builder’s remedy before further restricting local control. For these reasons, the City of Brentwood must **oppose unless amend AB 1893**.

Sincerely,



Joel R. Bryant,
Mayor

Cc: The Honorable Buffy Wicks via Legislative Position Letter Portal
Honorable Timothy S. Grayson, Assembly Member: assemblymember.grayson@assembly.ca.gov
Honorable Diane Burgis, CCC Supervisor: supervisor_burgis@bos.cccounty.us
Honorable City Council Members, City of Brentwood: citycouncil@brentwoodca.gov
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