

September 24, 2023

Governor Gavin Newsom
1021 O Street, Suite 9000
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Housing Legislation

Dear Governor,

As a member of a faith community with a long history of concern and advocacy for economic and social justice, I have been deeply concerned about the lack of affordable housing. California’s housing crisis continues and while public policy reforms to accelerate the building of housing has been made, more still needs to be done. Therefore, I urge you to sign the following bills that have passed the Legislature and are now on your desk and thank you if you have already signed any of them.

SB 4 will allow places of worship and nonprofit colleges to build developments that are 100% affordable for low- and moderate-income households, with an emphasis on lower-income households.

SB 423 would preserve and enhance an existing legal tool that allows applications for badly-needed homes to be reviewed through a streamlined, ministerial process, based on objective standards, which allows housing to be built more quickly and at a lower cost.

SB 555 would require the Department of Housing and Community Development to complete a California Social Housing Study laying out the opportunities, resources, obstacles, and recommendations for the creation of affordable housing.

SB 567 revises the no-fault just cause eviction provisions of the Tenant Protection Act of 2019 (TPA) to provide additional enforcement mechanisms for violations of restrictions on residential rent increases and no-fault just cause evictions.

AB 309 would create the Social Housing Program. The mission of which would be to ensure that up to three qualified social housing developments are produced on leased state property in order to use the results to inform public policy related to developing an independent public entity to develop statewide social housing.

Sincerely,

(Print Name & Address) _____
