[March xx, 2020]

The Honorable Buffy Wicks

State Capitol, Room 5160

Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: AB 2406 – SUPPORT**

Dear Assemblymember Wicks,

[Name of your organization] is proud to support AB 2406, your bill to create a statewide rental registry to collect critical rental housing data from property owners.

A family’s ability to maintain housing is absolutely critical in California’s super-heated housing market. Rent increases or terminations of tenancy can quickly lead to homelessness and make it very difficult to regain stability. The state has adopted time-limited protections for renters in order to address displacement but lacks the comprehensive data on rent increases and terminations needed to develop targeted, data-informed policies. Datasets that already exist are proprietary, expensive, and not accessible to the public. As a result, policymakers do not have access to a statewide, by-unit rental housing database that provides the information needed to understand the severity of the problem, geographic variation, or trends in the marketplace.

In addition, the state and its local partners have allocated significant financial resources and passed policies aimed at alleviating the housing crisis. In order to evaluate and build on these initiatives, deploy resources in the most efficient manner, and ultimately have the most effective impact, the state must develop a data-driven system that enables public entities, academic researchers, and the public to measure the effect of policy initiatives.

Thank you for authoring this important measure. California cannot address its housing crisis effectively without comprehensive data to inform important policy decisions.

Sincerely,

Your Name

Your Title