



June 19, 2023

Hon. Rick Chavez Zbur
Assemblymember, District 51
P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249-0051

RE: SUPPORT – AB 1181 – Energy Resilience for Multifamily and Affordable Homes

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
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Dear Assemblymember Zbur:

On behalf of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), I am pleased to support AB 1181. This bill would make it easier for multifamily homes to achieve energy reliability and lower electricity costs for their tenants by directing the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to improve financial incentives for pairing battery storage and solar panels in multifamily homes and ensure tenants receive direct economic benefit from these technologies.

The CPUC’s “Self-Generation Incentive Program” (SGIP) provides incentives to support existing, new, and emerging distributed energy resources, providing rebates for qualifying distributed energy systems installed on the customer’s side of the utility meter, including advanced energy storage systems. While programs exist that provide financial incentives for multifamily homes to offset energy costs, including providing for the installation of solar panels and energy storage, very few of the multifamily home projects that take advantage of solar panel installation also take advantage of installing energy storage.

Integration of energy storage is a vital to mitigating the effects of climate change and becoming net-zero in California. AB 1181 seeks to address the current underutilization under existing programs, and also helping low-income households with energy storage installation.

It is our understanding that AB 1181 was made a two-year bill. Nevertheless, SCAG remains committed to the goals of your bill and looks forward to providing any assistance you may need to push this bill across the finish line next year. Please contact Mr. Kevin Gilhooley, State and Federal Legislative Affairs Manager, at (213) 236-1878 or via e-mail at gilhooley@scag.ca.gov if we can be of any assistance.

Sincerely,

Kome Ajise
Executive Director