



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
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September 18, 2025

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
1021 O Street, Suite 900
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SCAG REQUEST FOR SIGNATURE – AB 650 (Papan) – Housing and Zoning: Regional Housing Needs Allocation

Dear Governor Newsom:

On behalf of the Southern California Association of Governments, I am pleased to support Assembly Bill (AB) 650, authored by Assemblymember Papan, which would extend various timelines in the Regional Housing Needs Determination (RHND), Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA), and housing element (HE) revision process. AB 650 would also require the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) to provide specific recommendations to local governments on how to address deficiencies in their draft Housing Elements to ensure compliance with state law.

AB 650 will give SCAG and Councils of Governments (COGs) across the state more time to complete their RHNA process, thereby enabling local jurisdictions to create and adopt compliant HEs on time. Additionally, requiring HCD to provide local jurisdictions with clear feedback on how to make their HEs compliant will further help them meet the deadline to submit a compliant HE. As an organization that has consistently supported legislation to accelerate and encourage affordable housing and housing production, addressing the housing crisis in our region and across the state, AB 650 would help increase coordination and flexibility between HCD and local jurisdictions to achieve shared housing production goals.

For these reasons, SCAG respectfully requests that you sign AB 650 into law. If SCAG can be of any assistance, please contact Mr. Kevin Gilhooley, Legislation Manager, at (213) 236-1878 or via e-mail at gilhooley@scag.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Kome Ajise
Executive Director