



June 26, 2024

The Honorable Buffy Wicks
Chair, Assembly Appropriations Committee
1021 O Street, Suite 8220
Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: SB 37 (Caballero) - SUPPORT

Dear Assembly Member Wicks:

The California Hospital Association (CHA) believes access to safe and stable housing is fundamental to an individual's well-being and essential to achieving and maintaining optimal health outcomes. CHA also recognizes that housing policies grounded in equity can begin to remedy discrimination and advance more housing options for all.

On behalf of more than 400 hospitals and health systems, CHA is writing to express support for Senate Bill (SB) 37 (Caballero, D-Merced), which would require, upon appropriation, the Department of Housing and Community Development to begin developing the Older Adults and Adults with Disabilities Housing Stability Pilot Program.

Older adults, like people of all ages, need housing options that meet their changing needs. Housing that allows for aging in place, with accessible transportation options, are foundational to well-being and continued engagement in civic, economic, and social life.

Many older adults who rent homes face increasing affordability challenges. Disparities in home ownership due to historical housing discrimination result in more Latinx and Black elders renting compared to White older Californians. This contributes to the rise in homelessness among older adults.

For these reasons, CHA requests your "AYE" vote on SB 37.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Vanessa Gonzalez". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Vanessa Gonzalez
Vice President, State Advocacy

cc: The Honorable Anna Caballero
The Honorable Members of the Assembly Appropriations Committee
Allegra Kim, Consultant Assembly Health Committee
Joe Shinstock, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus