

May 3, 2018



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Brilliant Corners

California Housing Foundation

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Home Ownership Made Easy

Home Ownership for Personal Empowerment

Housing Choices Coalition

Housing Consortium of the East Bay

Housing Now

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AFFILIATES

Access Home

California Supported Living Network

Innovative Housing Options

Integrated Health & Living Project

Mutual Housing California

Dear Senators Beall and Skinner,

Thank you for your leadership in securing valuable resources to create affordable homes for our most vulnerable neighbors in California. We represent the Lanterman Housing Alliance (LHA), an industry association comprising organizations throughout California that serve the housing needs of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD).

The LHA members appreciate Senator Beall's attending our meeting on April 6, and we support SB 912. Once this important bill is passed into law, LHA has the following recommendation that would strengthen SB 912's impact on people with I/DD. We are hopeful that you both will be open to discussing this with us.

The members of LHA respectfully **request that SB 912 explicitly include people with I/DD among the special needs populations** who would benefit from your efforts to target the projected budget surplus to create much needed permanent supportive housing for homeless and chronically homeless, homeless youth, Healthy CA program participants, and survivors of domestic violence.

Between January 2007 and January 2017:

- California's **population with developmental disabilities grew by 41%**, compared to a 10% growth rate in the total population during that decade.
- Longer life spans and the increase in autism diagnosis that began 30 years ago are producing a **fast-growing adult population**, which will grow at an even faster rate in the next two decades.
- But in the meantime, **the total number of people with developmental disabilities able to live in licensed spaces (Community Care Facilities, Intermediate Care Facilities, Developmental Centers, and Skilled Nursing facilities) has declined** by 4.5% in the decade 2007 to 2017—from 37,024 in licensed spaces in 2007 to 35,353 in licensed spaces in 2017.



- As a result, **the number of adults with developmental disabilities living at home with aging parents** has grown by a staggering 77% in the decade between 2007 and 2017

On an annual basis, thousands of people contact our member organizations across the state for help planning where the person will live when the parent or family member can no longer house them. These concerned family members want to get the adult with I/DD settled in a safe and affordable living situation while the parents and caregivers are still healthy enough to be involved in creating a successful transition from the family home.

Many adults with I/DD are able to live successfully in their own home, with Independent Living or Supportive Living services. Unfortunately, attaining an affordable place to live has become increasingly difficult. New state and local housing finance sources target only the homeless and mentally ill, and affordable housing developers must increasingly dedicate a share of their new rental units to these populations, **effectively excluding people with I/DD** from their new housing developments.

Please consider including people with I/DD as an eligible population, either for a targeted set-aside amount (as was provided for the other vulnerable groups) or as a population prioritized to be served under the share of the funding that will go to the Multi-Family Housing Program (MHP). Without this change, we believe local funding priorities may exclude people with I/DD from the benefits of SB 912.

Please contact Darin Lounds at LHA for more information by calling 510-832-1382 x104 or email dlounds@hceb.org. Many thanks to you both for your unwavering dedication to representing California's most vulnerable people.

Respectfully,

Kristin Martin
Board President