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Date

The Honorable Tina McKinnor
California State Assembly
1021 O Street, Room 5520
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 2616 (McKinnor) SUPPORT

Dear Assemblymember McKinnor:

On behalf of the Members of the (ORGANIZATION), I am writing to express our strong support for AB 2616 (McKinnor). AB 2616 would require rental housing to be maintained at a maximum indoor temperature of not more than 82 degrees Fahrenheit.

Extreme heat highly impacts Californians' health outcomes, such as birth and the worsening of other critical existing medical conditions. There are regions within the state where temperatures would exceed 100 degrees for over 50 days every year. From 2013-2022, extreme heat events resulted in nearly 460 deaths in the state. During a major heatwave in 2024, heat-related Emergency Room (ER) visit rates in some areas of the state doubled. In the same year, two counties registered almost 1,800 ER visits for heat-related illness, for which, in some of these geographies, these cases were more than double the count from the previous year. Vulnerable and disadvantaged communities are disproportionately affected by extreme heat more than other communities (SB 655 of 2025).

Current law does not consider a safe maximum indoor temperature for rental housing. The state's administration has recommended considering a general maximum safe indoor air temperature of 82 degrees Fahrenheit (27.8 degrees Celsius) for residential dwelling units. The state has set a requirement for maximum workplace temperatures, and as a policy, for when specific agencies are working on residential property policy, to consider that these units shall be able to attain and maintain a safe maximum indoor temperature.

A safe maximum indoor temperature for residential property has not been codified as a requirement for rental housing. In 2025, Los Angeles County became the only local government to adopt an ordinance to require rental units to maintain a maximum indoor temperature of no more than 82°F. In the face of climate change, California must demonstrate leadership by protecting communities that continue to be impacted by extreme heat in their homes.

AB 2616 would require rental housing to be maintained at a maximum indoor temperature of not more than 82 degrees Fahrenheit without passing down costs of modifications to tenants.

This bill allows tenants to install or use cooling devices and other methods to provide additional cooling. This bill will become effective on January 1st, 2028, and landlords will have until January 1st, 2030, to make sure the building is in compliance with the tenantability standards.

(DISCUSS WHY YOU AND/OR YOUR ORGANIZATION SUPPORT THIS BILL.)

Thank you for your continued leadership on this issue.

Sincerely,

NAME

ORGANIZATION

CONTACT INFORMATION

cc: The Honorable (Chair Name), Chair, (Name of Committee)
Members of the (Name of Committee)