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CA CHAPTER



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BUILDING
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PENINSULA
CLEAN ENERGY

LONG BEACH ALLIANCE
FOR CLEAN ENERGY

June 25, 2025

Hon. Scott Wiener, Chair
Senate Budget Committee
1020 N. Street, Room 502
Sacramento, CA 95814

Hon. Jesse Gabriel, Chair
Assembly Budget Committee
1021 O Street, Suite 8230
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: AB 130: Housing Trailer Bill: Moratorium on State and Local Building Codes –
OPPOSE UNLESS AMENDED**

Dear Chairs Wiener and Gabriel,

The undersigned organizations must respectfully oppose AB 130 (Gabriel) unless it is amended to take out language from AB 306 (Rivas, Schultz) that would impose a moratorium on California's state and local building code processes.

Pausing California's building code cycle will have severe consequences on housing production costs and flexibility, our ability to mitigate and prevent harm from natural disasters and extreme heat events, and energy efficiency and decarbonization measures that save ratepayer dollars – without reducing the cost of housing in California. **This policy is best analyzed through the policy committee process and does not belong in a budget trailer bill.**

Our organizations support the stated intent of AB 130's building code language to speed up construction of homes to rebuild after the Los Angeles wildfires and increase housing supply across the state. However, streamlining requirements to support new construction can be done without adversely affecting efforts to advance decarbonization in existing construction that lower costs, protect public health, and mitigate climate change.

Local governments across California are interested in adopting cost-effective, common-sense measures for existing residential buildings. An example is "AC to Heat Pump" existing building reach codes that would require heat pumps to be installed instead of air conditioning units when an air conditioner is replaced or added in an existing home. Just this existing building code alone will save households an estimated \$5 billion over the 6-year moratorium period on redundant up-front costs statewide and lower household electricity bills by \$200-\$600 annually, while having no impact on new construction or the supply of housing.

The triennial update to the building code is intended to incorporate changes that make California's buildings cleaner, cheaper to construct and operate, more efficient, and more resilient against wildfires and other natural disasters. AB 130 would force the state and local governments to skip 6 years of improvements to the building code. **This complex policy**

will have many unintended consequences and should be considered through the regular policy process, not a rushed trailer bill.

For all these reasons we urge you to remove Sections 29 - 31 and 37- 40 on building standards from AB 130 prior to the vote, and allow AB 306 to continue working through the regular policy process.

Sincerely,

Janet Cox
CEO
Climate Action California

David Diaz
Active San Gabriel Valley

Cheryl Auger
Ban SUP (Single Use Plastic)

Bruce Hodge
Carbon Free Palo Alto

Mike Clancy
Citizens' Climate Lobby Monterey County

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Serena Pelka
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Steve Levin
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SoCal 350 Climate Action
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(SoCoCAN!)
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(TREE)
Ben Stapleton
US Green Building Council – Los Angeles
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Laura Neish
350 Bay Area Action
Alan Weiner
350 Conejo / San Fernando Valley
Daniel Tahara
350 East Bay, Berkeley Hub
Daniel Chandler
350 Humboldt
Will Brieger, Esq.
350 Sacramento
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350 Southland Legislative Alliance
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