

June 30, 2021

VIA Online Portal to Author and Senate Committee on Appropriations

The Honorable Ben Allen California State Senate State Capitol, Room 4076 Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: SCA 2 (Allen) - Public housing projects - SUPPORT

Dear Senator Allen:

The League of Women Voters of California supports measures to streamline the supply of safe, decent, adequate housing for all Californians. We also support equality of opportunity in housing. Housing should not be restricted because of discriminatory reasons. Thus, we strongly support SCA 2, your proposed constitutional amendment that would repeal Article 34 of the California Constitution.

Article 34 was passed in 1950 before we had laws prohibiting racial discrimination in housing; it appealed to racist fears regarding integration of white communities. No other state has such a requirement for approval of the building of low-income housing. Requiring Article 34 authority before certain types of low-income housing can be built creates a barrier to building affordable housing. It can add to the cost of building the housing, as well as cause delays. Today, when the need for affordable housing is so dire, this obstacle to building affordable housing should be removed.

Thank you for sponsoring this legislation, which should help with California's current housing crisis.

Sincerely,

Carol Moon Goldberg

President