

April 10, 2023

The Honorable Eloise Gomez Reyes Member, California State Assembly 1021 O Street, Room 8210 Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Assembly Bill 1000 – Oppose As Amended March 30, 2023

Dear Assembly Member Reyes:

On behalf of the Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC), we regretfully oppose your Assembly Bill 1000, regarding logistics use projects. RCRC is an association of forty rural California counties and the RCRC Board of Directors is comprised of elected supervisors from each of those member counties.

Assembly Bill 1000 prohibits local governments from approving warehouse development projects located within 1,000 feet of a large variety of sensitive receptors. In addition, it imposes new conditions on projects between 750-1000 feet of those sensitive receptors.

RCRC opposes AB 1000 because it will have a disproportionately harmful impact on the development of warehouse projects in rural areas. Economic development is often limited in many rural unincorporated areas where the median household income is generally lower and unemployment is higher than the statewide average. Warehouses and logistics facilities represent a tremendous opportunity for economic growth in many of these areas and can have a very significant benefit on the economic well-being of residents involved in construction and operation of the project.

RCRC is troubled by AB 1000's prohibition on the siting of new warehouse development projects within 750 feet of sensitive receptors. This intrudes on local land use authority and ignores requirements imposed under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) to mitigate a project's significant impacts on the environment. Furthermore, the list of "sensitive receptors" is extensive and ignores the fact that some of those receptors – like churches – sometimes become tenants of the types of

The Honorable Eloise Gomez Reyes Assembly Bill 1000 April 10, 2023 Page 2

warehouse/commercial facilities that are prevalent in the areas in which these logistics facilities would normally be located.

In addition to concerns about pre-determining mitigation measures that will be included as part of the CEQA process, some of the facility electrification requirements that will apply to projects between 750-1000 feet from a sensitive receptor may be unachievable in the near- and mid-term because of challenges many local governments and developers face in getting the electric utility to interconnect projects of all shapes and sizes to the power grid, including those with substantial on-site generation and storage.

For these reasons, we must regretfully oppose your AB 1000. If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at ikennedy@rcrcnet.org.

Sincerely,

JOHN KENNEDY Policy Advocate

cc: The Honorable Luz Rivas, Chair, Assembly Natural Resources Committee Members of the Assembly Natural Resources Committee Elizabeth MacMillan, Consultant, Assembly Natural Resources Committee Casey Dunn, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus