



August 30, 2024

VIA Email to the Office of the Governor and Author

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor of California
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: SB 450 (Atkins) – Housing development: approvals – REQUEST FOR
GOVERNOR'S SIGNATURE**

Dear Governor Newsom:

The League of Women Voters of California writes to request your signature on SB 450 (Atkins), which makes amendments to SB 9 by setting timelines for review, removing various requirements on applicable projects, and adding state enforcement.

The League of Women Voters of California supported SB 9 (2021) (see our [support letter](#)) that was designed to increase the construction of housing for those locked out of the current market by allowing homeowners to split their lot and build a duplex on each new lot. This bill builds upon SB 9 by removing barriers to construction that have developed during local implementation of SB 9. The bill uses methods that have been found effective in other circumstances.

SB 450 requires a local agency to respond to SB 9 applications within 60 days of receiving a complete application, after which the application will be deemed approved. If the application is denied, the agency must provide comments

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describing how the application can be remedied. The existing restriction on demolitions is removed, and local jurisdictions can neither enforce design standards that do not apply to the underlying single-unit zoning, nor deny a lot-split application based on its impact on the physical environment.

For these reasons, The League of Women Voters of California is in strong support of SB 450 (Atkins) as essential to the full and robust implementation of SB 9. We respectfully request your signature. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Stephanie Doute".

Stephanie Doute
Executive Director