

September 6, 2024

The Honorable Gavin Newsom Governor, State of California 1021 O Street, Suite 9000 Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Assembly Bill 2199 (Berman) - REQUEST FOR SIGNATURE

Dear Governor Newsom:

On behalf of the Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC), we respectfully request your signature on Assembly Bill 2199 (Berman) which extends an existing California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) exemption for residential and mixed-use housing 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 2199 extends the sunset date for a CEQA exemption that applies to the construction of residential or mixed-use housing projects in a county's unincorporated area. To qualify for this exemption, projects must be consistent with applicable general plan policies and zoning as well as be located on a site of no more than five acres in an area that is substantially surrounded by urban uses. AB 2199 will provide both rural and non-rural counties with continued CEQA relief for infill housing projects, will help fuel economic growth, and provide counties with more flexibility to address the state's significant housing shortfall.

For the above reasons, RCRC respectfully requests your signature on Assembly Bill 2199. If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at ikennedy@rcrcnet.org.

Sincerely,

JOHN KENNEDY

Senior Policy Advocate

cc: The Honorable Marc Berman, Member, California State Assembly