



MAYOR REX RICHARDSON

April 7, 2023

The Honorable Anna Caballero
California State Senate
1021 O Street, Suite 7620
Sacramento, CA 94249

RE: Support for SB 37 (Caballero)—Older Adults and Adults with Disabilities Housing Stability Act

Dear Senator Caballero,

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I write in support of SB 37. This bill would create the Older Adults and Adults with Disabilities Housing Stability Program, which would provide housing subsidies to older adults and adults with disabilities who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness. The City supports legislation and funding that directly address the root causes of homelessness.

Many older adults and adults with disabilities live on fixed incomes and face major financial burdens that make it difficult to pay for housing, food, and other necessities. Since Supplemental Security Income does not provide enough financial support to cover the costs of rising rents, older adults and adults with disabilities are among those hit the hardest by the housing affordability crisis. The City's 2022 Point-in-Time (PIT) count found a 63 percent increase in the number of older adults experiencing homelessness when compared with the 2020 PIT Count. Furthermore, 36 percent of survey respondents reported that they have a physical disability, and 23 percent of respondents reported that they have a developmental disability. This bill would create a program to fund rental subsidies to address the disparity between income and housing costs for older adults and adults with disabilities.

SB 37 advances the [Master Plan for Aging's](#) goal of preventing and ending homelessness among older adults by enabling extremely low-income older adults and people with disabilities who are currently homeless or at risk of homelessness to afford rental housing. The proposed legislation will strengthen the City's capacity to address homelessness locally and ensure that resources are available to expand rental subsidies throughout the state. For these reasons, the City supports SB 37.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rex Richardson", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Mayor Rex Richardson
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Lena Gonzalez, State Senate, 33rd District
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 65th District
The Honorable Josh Lowenthal, State Assembly, 69th District