



CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS

455 NORTH REXFORD DRIVE ▪ BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA 90210

Lester J. Friedman, Mayor

February 22, 2021

The Honorable Scott Wiener
California State Senate, 11th District
State Capitol, Room 5100
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: SB 10 (Wiener) - Planning and Zoning: housing developments: density
City of Beverly Hills - Oppose

Dear Senator Wiener,

I write to inform you that the City of Beverly Hills respectfully Opposes SB 10, which would permit a local government to pass an ordinance allowing the utilization of a streamlined approval process for rezoning parcels of land to allow for increased density; especially as there is a provision that would allow a City Council to adopt an ordinance that could overturn voter approved initiatives.

While this measure seeks to address California's housing crisis by providing local governments with an additional tool to increase housing production in their jurisdictions, it fails to ensure local governments are not able to overturn the democratic will of their residents. Further, it is not clear that a local governing body could even utilize the ordinance process to overturn a voter-approved initiative. We are concerned that this could be in conflict with the streamlined process proposed by SB 10. Such initiatives are one of the most direct means that voters have of expressing their will for their communities and allowing an elected body to capriciously overturn these initiatives would be an affront to the democratic process.

We remain concerned that, as drafted, SB 10 would create a pathway for local governments to overturn the will of the voters. For these reasons, the City of Beverly Hills must respectfully OPPOSE your SB 10.

Sincerely,

Lester J. Friedman
Mayor, City of Beverly Hills

cc: Members and Consultants, Senate Committee on Housing
The Honorable Ben Allen, 26th Senate District
The Honorable Richard Bloom, 50th Assembly District
Andrew K. Antwih, Shaw Yoder Antwih Schmelzer & Lange