City Council Meeting
04-26-21
Item 7.A.

Council Agenda Report

To: Mayor Pierson and the Honorable Members of the City Council

Prepared by: Mary Linden, Executive Assistant

Approved by: Reva Feldman, City Manager

Date prepared: April 14, 2021 Meeting date: April 26, 2021

Subject: SB 55 and SB 765 – SUPPORT and Request for State Audit of Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Mayor Pro Tem Grisanti) (Continued from April 12, 2021)

RECOMMENDED ACTION: At the request of Mayor Pro Tem Grisanti, authorize the Mayor to: 1) Submit letters of support for Senate Bills (SB) 55 regarding development in very high fire hazard severity zones and SB 765 related to setback requirements for accessory dwelling units; and 2) Send a letter to the California State Assembly Joint Legislative Audit Committee to request a State Audit of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California in order to have a comprehensive investigation into allegations and concerns regarding the workplace culture.

FISCAL IMPACT: There is no fiscal impact associated with the recommended action.

WORK PLAN: This item was not included in the Adopted Work Plan for Fiscal Year 2020-2021. This project is part of normal staff operations.

DISCUSSION: This item was continued from April 12, 2021 without discussion. However, since the April 12, 2021 agenda was posted, SB 55 was amended to incorporate the proposed amendments that had been included with the original report as Attachment 2. The current version of the bill, amended as of April 5, 2021, is attached with this report (Attachment 1). An updated Fact Sheet (Attachment 4), revised as of April 12, 2021, is also included.

Testimony was taken at first hearings on April 15, 2021 for both SB 55 and SB 765. For both bills, a further hearing will be set for a future date.

Since the original report was issued, additional information was also received regarding the allegations against the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, including a copy of the resolution adopted by the City of Los Angeles City Council supporting any legislative effort by the Senate and Assembly Joint Legislative Audit Committee to conduct an investigation into the matter (Attachment 9). A list of California lawmakers and others who joined Metropolitan Water District workers in calling for a state audit into the allegations that submitted to the Las Virgenes-Malibu Council of Governments (COG) is also included (Attachment 10).

The following is information from the original staff report for this item when it was presented in the April 12, 2021 City Council agenda:

Senator Henry Stern has introduced two bills for consideration in the 2021-2022 legislative session, SB 55, co-authored by Senator Ben Allen, and SB 765, co-authored by Assembly Member Laura Friedman.

SB 55

Following the historically destructive fire seasons of 2018-2020, the State recognized it must develop a growth strategy that recognizes the joint effects of economic, housing, and climate crises while addressing the key area of fire risk. Existing law requires the Director of Forestry and Fire Protection to identify areas of the state as very high fire hazard severity zones (VHFHSZ) based on specified criteria. All of Malibu has been identified as being within a VHFHSZ, and a recent study found that approximately 2.7 million Californians live in VHFHSZ. Resiliency efforts, such as home hardening and defensible space requirements, are critical defenses but may not be enough to protect communities within a VHFHSZ.

SB 55 (Attachment 1) looks to address that shortfall by prohibiting new residential, commercial and industrial development within a VHFHSZ. Senator Stern's office has provided draft amendments to SB 55 (Attachment 2) that will be presented when the bill is considered. The amendments would do the following:

- Provide an exemption to the development prohibition if a local jurisdiction meets notated fire safety standards
- Clarifies the definition of a "new development" to explicitly allow for rebuilds and any 1:1 construction for existing dwelling units
- Allows any essential infrastructure maintenance
- Allows for construction of a new facility or infrastructure if it is intended for fire prevention or response

SB 765

SB 765 addresses the statewide standardized setback for accessory dwelling units (ADUs). The current standardized setback of four (4) feet for placement of an ADU does

not take into consideration the wide variation in parcel sizes that can range anywhere from a small, 5,000-square foot parcel to a parcel of 20 acres or more in a rural zone. In each case, an ADU would be required to be situated against a fence line and significantly closer to a neighbor's home on an adjacent property than to the home on the property where it is located. SB 765 would change the statewide standardized setback to instead allow cities to maintain a setback that is appropriate to their lot size and terrain.

Both bills are currently being considered by the Senate Governance and Finance Committee and Senate Housing Committee. Mayor Pro Tem Grisanti is requesting the Council authorize the Mayor to submit letters of support for SB 55 and SB 765 through the California Legislature Position Letters Portal. For further reference, fact sheets (Attachments 4 and 5) and draft letters of support (Attachments 6 and 7) are also attached.

Reports of Harassment in the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

A Los Angeles Times article published on February 12, 2021 reported on "a pattern of complaints alleging harassment and bullying of women" who worked for the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. The article includes first-hand recollections of numerous instances of sexual harassment, bullying, discrimination, and retaliation, particularly for women and LGBTQIA+ people, many of whom worked in the District's apprentice program.

On March 9, 2021, Supervisor Janice Hahn presented an item to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors requesting Board authorization to send a letter under all five Supervisors' signatures to the California State Assembly Joint Legislative Audit Committee (Audit Committee) requesting a comprehensive investigation into these allegations (Attachment 8). Supervisor Hahn's motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Pro Tem Grisanti is requesting the Council authorize the Mayor to send a letter stating the City of Malibu joined with the County in requesting a comprehensive investigation and State Audit into these serious allegations and concerns regarding the workplace culture surrounding the women and LGBTQIA+ employees of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. SB 55 *(Amended as of April 5, 2021)*
2. SB 55 Draft Amendments *(proposed amendments included in amended text of SB 55 - see Attachment 1)*
3. SB 765
4. SB 55 fact sheet *(Updated April 12, 2021)*
5. SB 765 fact sheet

6. SB 55 draft letter of support
7. SB 765 draft letter of support
8. Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Motion (March 9, 2021 Agenda Item No. 46-G)
9. Los Angeles City Council Resolution
10. California lawmakers joining Metropolitan Water District workers to support State audit or investigation

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 5, 2021

SENATE BILL No. 55

Introduced by Senators Stern and Allen

December 7, 2020

An act *to amend Section 65915 of, and* to add Section 51182.5 ~~to~~ *to,* the Government Code, relating to land use.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 55, as amended, Stern. Very high fire hazard severity zone: state responsibility area: development ~~prohibition.~~ *prohibition: supplemental height and density bonuses.*

Existing law requires the Director of Forestry and Fire Protection to identify areas of the state as very high fire hazard severity zones based on specified criteria. Existing law requires a local agency to designate, by ordinance, very high hazard severity zones in its jurisdiction within 120 days of receiving recommendations from the director. Existing law authorizes a local agency to include areas within its jurisdiction not identified as very high fire hazard severity zones by the director as very high fire hazard severity zones following a specified finding supported by substantial evidence.

Existing law requires the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection to determine, based on specified criteria, whether an area of the state is one for which the financial responsibility of preventing and suppressing fires is primarily the responsibility of the state. Existing law refers to these areas as "state responsibility areas."

This bill would, in furtherance of specified state housing ~~production~~ *production, sustainability communities strategies, greenhouse gas reduction,* and wildfire mitigation goals, prohibit the creation or approval of a new development, as defined, in a very high fire hazard severity

zone or a state responsibility ~~area.~~ *area unless there is substantial evidence that the local agency has adopted a comprehensive, necessary, and appropriate wildfire prevention and community hardening strategy to mitigate significant risks of loss, injury, or death, as specified.* By imposing new duties on local governments with respect to the approval of new developments in very high fire hazard severity zones and state responsibility areas, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

Existing law, known as the Density Bonus Law, requires a city or county to provide a developer that proposes a housing development in the city or county with a density bonus and other incentives or concessions for the production of lower income housing units, or for the donation of land within the development, if the developer agrees to, among other things, construct a specified percentage of units for very low income, low-income, or moderate-income households or qualifying residents.

This bill would provide a qualifying developer a supplemental height bonus and a supplemental density bonus, as specified, if the development is located on a site that meets certain criteria, including, among others, not being located in a moderate, high, or very high fire hazard severity zone, as specified. By imposing additional requirements on local governments with respect to supplemental height and density bonuses, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The bill would include findings that changes proposed by this bill address a matter of statewide concern rather than a municipal affair and, therefore, apply to all cities, including charter cities.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. It is the intent of the Legislature that this measure's provisions in Section 51182.5 of the Health and Safety Code that prevent housing construction in fire hazard severity zones and state responsibility areas not result in a decrease in the

state's supply of housing. It is the intent of the Legislature to help prevent such a decrease by offering alternative density bonus incentives, as specified.

~~SECTION 1.~~

SEC. 2. Section 51182.5 is added to the Government Code, to read:

51182.5. (a) Notwithstanding any law, in furtherance of state housing~~ production~~ *production, sustainability communities strategies, greenhouse gas reduction,* and wildfire mitigation goals under Assembly Bill 101 (Chapter 159 of the Statutes of 2019), *Senate Bill 375 (Chapter 728 of the Statutes of 2008),* Section 4290 of the Public Resources Code, and subdivision (g) of Section 65088, a new development shall not be created or approved in a very high fire hazard severity zone or a state responsibility~~ area.~~ *area unless there is substantial evidence that the local agency has adopted a comprehensive, necessary, and appropriate wildfire prevention and community hardening strategy to mitigate significant risks of loss, injury, or death. The wildfire prevention and community hardening strategy may include, but is not limited to, any of the following:*

(1) Improved building standards described in Chapter 7A (commencing with Section 701A.1) of Part 2 of Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations.

(2) Requirements for structure hardening for critical infrastructure and other existing development in the fire hazard severity zone or state responsibility area.

(3) Emergency response plans.

(4) Emergency evacuation plans.

(5) Resiliency and hazard mitigation plans related to flood, landslide, air quality, and other climate risks related to wildfire.

(b) For purposes of this~~ section, "development"~~ *section:*

(1) "Development" means ~~either of the following:~~

~~(1) A~~*a* project containing residential dwellings, including, but not limited to, mobilehomes, accessory dwelling units, and junior accessory dwelling units, of one or more units or a subdivision of land for the purpose of constructing one or more residential dwelling units.

~~(2) A project for commercial, retail, or industrial use.~~

(2) "New development" does not include either of the following:

(A) Construction required to maintain, repair, reconstruct, restore, or rebuild a development that is involuntarily damaged or destroyed by fire or other catastrophic event.

(B) Construction required to maintain, repair, reconstruct, restore, or rebuild an existing residential dwelling.

(3) "Rebuild" means to build a new structure of the same or smaller size as, and in place of, an existing structure or a structure that is destroyed by fire or other catastrophic event.

(4) "Structure hardening" has the same meaning as that term is defined in Section 8654.3.

SEC. 3. Section 65915 of the Government Code is amended to read:

65915. (a) (1) When an applicant seeks a density bonus for a housing development within, or for the donation of land for housing within, the jurisdiction of a city, county, or city and county, that local government shall comply with this section. A city, county, or city and county shall adopt an ordinance that specifies how compliance with this section will be implemented. Except as otherwise provided in subdivision (s), failure to adopt an ordinance shall not relieve a city, county, or city and county from complying with this section.

(2) A local government shall not condition the submission, review, or approval of an application pursuant to this chapter on the preparation of an additional report or study that is not otherwise required by state law, including this section. This subdivision does not prohibit a local government from requiring an applicant to provide reasonable documentation to establish eligibility for a requested density bonus, incentives or concessions, as described in subdivision (d), waivers or reductions of development standards, as described in subdivision (e), and parking ratios, as described in subdivision (p).

(3) In order to provide for the expeditious processing of a density bonus application, the local government shall do all of the following:

(A) Adopt procedures and timelines for processing a density bonus application.

(B) Provide a list of all documents and information required to be submitted with the density bonus application in order for the density bonus application to be deemed complete. This list shall be consistent with this chapter.

(C) Notify the applicant for a density bonus whether the application is complete in a manner consistent with the timelines specified in Section 65943.

(D) (i) If the local government notifies the applicant that the application is deemed complete pursuant to subparagraph (C), provide the applicant with a determination as to the following matters:

(I) The amount of density bonus, calculated pursuant to subdivision (f), for which the applicant is eligible.

(II) If the applicant requests a parking ratio pursuant to subdivision (p), the parking ratio for which the applicant is eligible.

(III) If the applicant requests incentives or concessions pursuant to subdivision (d) or waivers or reductions of development standards pursuant to subdivision (e), whether the applicant has provided adequate information for the local government to make a determination as to those incentives, concessions, or waivers or reductions of development standards.

(ii) Any determination required by this subparagraph shall be based on the development project at the time the application is deemed complete. The local government shall adjust the amount of density bonus and parking ratios awarded pursuant to this section based on any changes to the project during the course of development.

(b) (1) A city, county, or city and county shall grant one density bonus, the amount of which shall be as specified in subdivision (f), and, if requested by the applicant and consistent with the applicable requirements of this section, incentives or concessions, as described in subdivision (d), waivers or reductions of development standards, as described in subdivision (e), and parking ratios, as described in subdivision (p), when an applicant for a housing development seeks and agrees to construct a housing development, excluding any units permitted by the density bonus awarded pursuant to this section, that will contain at least any one of the following:

(A) Ten percent of the total units of a housing development for lower income households, as defined in Section 50079.5 of the Health and Safety Code.

(B) Five percent of the total units of a housing development for very low income households, as defined in Section 50105 of the Health and Safety Code.

(C) A senior citizen housing development, as defined in Sections 51.3 and 51.12 of the Civil Code, or a mobilehome park that limits residency based on age requirements for housing for older persons pursuant to Section 798.76 or 799.5 of the Civil Code.

(D) Ten percent of the total dwelling units in a common interest development, as defined in Section 4100 of the Civil Code, for persons and families of moderate income, as defined in Section 50093 of the Health and Safety Code, provided that all units in the development are offered to the public for purchase.

(E) Ten percent of the total units of a housing development for transitional foster youth, as defined in Section 66025.9 of the Education Code, disabled veterans, as defined in Section 18541, or homeless persons, as defined in the federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. Sec. 11301 et seq.). The units described in this subparagraph shall be subject to a recorded affordability restriction of 55 years and shall be provided at the same affordability level as very low income units.

(F) (i) Twenty percent of the total units for lower income students in a student housing development that meets the following requirements:

(I) All units in the student housing development will be used exclusively for undergraduate, graduate, or professional students enrolled full time at an institution of higher education accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges or the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges. In order to be eligible under this subclause, the developer shall, as a condition of receiving a certificate of occupancy, provide evidence to the city, county, or city and county that the developer has entered into an operating agreement or master lease with one or more institutions of higher education for the institution or institutions to occupy all units of the student housing development with students from that institution or institutions. An operating agreement or master lease entered into pursuant to this subclause is not violated or breached if, in any subsequent year, there are not sufficient students enrolled in an institution of higher education to fill all units in the student housing development.

(II) The applicable 20-percent units will be used for lower income students. For purposes of this clause, “lower income students” means students who have a household income and asset level that does not exceed the level for Cal Grant A or Cal Grant

B award recipients as set forth in paragraph (1) of subdivision (k) of Section 69432.7 of the Education Code. The eligibility of a student under this clause shall be verified by an affidavit, award letter, or letter of eligibility provided by the institution of higher education that the student is enrolled in, as described in subclause (I), or by the California Student Aid Commission that the student receives or is eligible for financial aid, including an institutional grant or fee waiver, from the college or university, the California Student Aid Commission, or the federal government shall be sufficient to satisfy this subclause.

(III) The rent provided in the applicable units of the development for lower income students shall be calculated at 30 percent of 65 percent of the area median income for a single-room occupancy unit type.

(IV) The development will provide priority for the applicable affordable units for lower income students experiencing homelessness. A homeless service provider, as defined in paragraph (3) of subdivision (e) of Section 103577 of the Health and Safety Code, or institution of higher education that has knowledge of a person's homeless status may verify a person's status as homeless for purposes of this subclause.

(ii) For purposes of calculating a density bonus granted pursuant to this subparagraph, the term "unit" as used in this section means one rental bed and its pro rata share of associated common area facilities. The units described in this subparagraph shall be subject to a recorded affordability restriction of 55 years.

(G) One hundred percent of all units in the development, including total units and density bonus units, but exclusive of a manager's unit or units, are for lower income households, as defined by Section 50079.5 of the Health and Safety Code, except that up to 20 percent of the units in the development, including total units and density bonus units, may be for moderate-income households, as defined in Section 50053 of the Health and Safety Code.

(2) For purposes of calculating the amount of the density bonus pursuant to subdivision (f), an applicant who requests a density bonus pursuant to this subdivision shall elect whether the bonus shall be awarded on the basis of subparagraph (A), (B), (C), (D), (E), (F), or (G) of paragraph (1).

(3) For the purposes of this section, "total units," "total dwelling units," or "total rental beds" does not include units added by a density bonus awarded pursuant to this section or any local law granting a greater density bonus.

(c) (1) (A) An applicant shall agree to, and the city, county, or city and county shall ensure, the continued affordability of all very low and low-income rental units that qualified the applicant for the award of the density bonus for 55 years or a longer period of time if required by the construction or mortgage financing assistance program, mortgage insurance program, or rental subsidy program.

(B) (i) Except as otherwise provided in clause (ii), rents for the lower income density bonus units shall be set at an affordable rent, as defined in Section 50053 of the Health and Safety Code.

(ii) For housing developments meeting the criteria of subparagraph (G) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (b), rents for all units in the development, including both base density and density bonus units, shall be as follows:

(I) The rent for at least 20 percent of the units in the development shall be set at an affordable rent, as defined in Section 50053 of the Health and Safety Code.

(II) The rent for the remaining units in the development shall be set at an amount consistent with the maximum rent levels for a housing development that receives an allocation of state or federal low-income housing tax credits from the California Tax Credit Allocation Committee.

(2) An applicant shall agree to, and the city, county, or city and county shall ensure that, the initial occupant of all for-sale units that qualified the applicant for the award of the density bonus are persons and families of very low, low, or moderate income, as required, and that the units are offered at an affordable housing cost, as that cost is defined in Section 50052.5 of the Health and Safety Code. The local government shall enforce an equity sharing agreement, unless it is in conflict with the requirements of another public funding source or law. The following apply to the equity sharing agreement:

(A) Upon resale, the seller of the unit shall retain the value of any improvements, the downpayment, and the seller's proportionate share of appreciation. The local government shall recapture any initial subsidy, as defined in subparagraph (B), and its proportionate

share of appreciation, as defined in subparagraph (C), which amount shall be used within five years for any of the purposes described in subdivision (e) of Section 33334.2 of the Health and Safety Code that promote home ownership.

(B) For purposes of this subdivision, the local government's initial subsidy shall be equal to the fair market value of the home at the time of initial sale minus the initial sale price to the moderate-income household, plus the amount of any downpayment assistance or mortgage assistance. If upon resale the market value is lower than the initial market value, then the value at the time of the resale shall be used as the initial market value.

(C) For purposes of this subdivision, the local government's proportionate share of appreciation shall be equal to the ratio of the local government's initial subsidy to the fair market value of the home at the time of initial sale.

(3) (A) An applicant shall be ineligible for a density bonus or any other incentives or concessions under this section if the housing development is proposed on any property that includes a parcel or parcels on which rental dwelling units are or, if the dwelling units have been vacated or demolished in the five-year period preceding the application, have been subject to a recorded covenant, ordinance, or law that restricts rents to levels affordable to persons and families of lower or very low income; subject to any other form of rent or price control through a public entity's valid exercise of its police power; or occupied by lower or very low income households, unless the proposed housing development replaces those units, and either of the following applies:

(i) The proposed housing development, inclusive of the units replaced pursuant to this paragraph, contains affordable units at the percentages set forth in subdivision (b).

(ii) Each unit in the development, exclusive of a manager's unit or units, is affordable to, and occupied by, either a lower or very low income household.

(B) For the purposes of this paragraph, "replace" shall mean either of the following:

(i) If any dwelling units described in subparagraph (A) are occupied on the date of application, the proposed housing development shall provide at least the same number of units of equivalent size to be made available at affordable rent or affordable housing cost to, and occupied by, persons and families in the same

or lower income category as those households in occupancy. If the income category of the household in occupancy is not known, it shall be rebuttably presumed that lower income renter households occupied these units in the same proportion of lower income renter households to all renter households within the jurisdiction, as determined by the most recently available data from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development's Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy database. For unoccupied dwelling units described in subparagraph (A) in a development with occupied units, the proposed housing development shall provide units of equivalent size to be made available at affordable rent or affordable housing cost to, and occupied by, persons and families in the same or lower income category as the last household in occupancy. If the income category of the last household in occupancy is not known, it shall be rebuttably presumed that lower income renter households occupied these units in the same proportion of lower income renter households to all renter households within the jurisdiction, as determined by the most recently available data from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development's Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy database. All replacement calculations resulting in fractional units shall be rounded up to the next whole number. If the replacement units will be rental dwelling units, these units shall be subject to a recorded affordability restriction for at least 55 years. If the proposed development is for-sale units, the units replaced shall be subject to paragraph (2).

(ii) If all dwelling units described in subparagraph (A) have been vacated or demolished within the five-year period preceding the application, the proposed housing development shall provide at least the same number of units of equivalent size as existed at the highpoint of those units in the five-year period preceding the application to be made available at affordable rent or affordable housing cost to, and occupied by, persons and families in the same or lower income category as those persons and families in occupancy at that time, if known. If the incomes of the persons and families in occupancy at the highpoint is not known, it shall be rebuttably presumed that low-income and very low income renter households occupied these units in the same proportion of low-income and very low income renter households to all renter

households within the jurisdiction, as determined by the most recently available data from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development's Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy database. All replacement calculations resulting in fractional units shall be rounded up to the next whole number. If the replacement units will be rental dwelling units, these units shall be subject to a recorded affordability restriction for at least 55 years. If the proposed development is for-sale units, the units replaced shall be subject to paragraph (2).

(C) Notwithstanding subparagraph (B), for any dwelling unit described in subparagraph (A) that is or was, within the five-year period preceding the application, subject to a form of rent or price control through a local government's valid exercise of its police power and that is or was occupied by persons or families above lower income, the city, county, or city and county may do either of the following:

(i) Require that the replacement units be made available at affordable rent or affordable housing cost to, and occupied by, low-income persons or families. If the replacement units will be rental dwelling units, these units shall be subject to a recorded affordability restriction for at least 55 years. If the proposed development is for-sale units, the units replaced shall be subject to paragraph (2).

(ii) Require that the units be replaced in compliance with the jurisdiction's rent or price control ordinance, provided that each unit described in subparagraph (A) is replaced. Unless otherwise required by the jurisdiction's rent or price control ordinance, these units shall not be subject to a recorded affordability restriction.

(D) For purposes of this paragraph, "equivalent size" means that the replacement units contain at least the same total number of bedrooms as the units being replaced.

(E) Subparagraph (A) does not apply to an applicant seeking a density bonus for a proposed housing development if the applicant's application was submitted to, or processed by, a city, county, or city and county before January 1, 2015.

(d) (1) An applicant for a density bonus pursuant to subdivision (b) may submit to a city, county, or city and county a proposal for the specific incentives or concessions that the applicant requests pursuant to this section, and may request a meeting with the city, county, or city and county. The city, county, or city and county

shall grant the concession or incentive requested by the applicant unless the city, county, or city and county makes a written finding, based upon substantial evidence, of any of the following:

(A) The concession or incentive does not result in identifiable and actual cost reductions, consistent with subdivision (k), to provide for affordable housing costs, as defined in Section 50052.5 of the Health and Safety Code, or for rents for the targeted units to be set as specified in subdivision (c).

(B) The concession or incentive would have a specific, adverse impact, as defined in paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) of Section 65589.5, upon public health and safety or the physical environment or on any real property that is listed in the California Register of Historical Resources and for which there is no feasible method to satisfactorily mitigate or avoid the specific, adverse impact without rendering the development unaffordable to low-income and moderate-income households.

(C) The concession or incentive would be contrary to state or federal law.

(2) The applicant shall receive the following number of incentives or concessions:

(A) One incentive or concession for projects that include at least 10 percent of the total units for lower income households, at least 5 percent for very low income households, or at least 10 percent for persons and families of moderate income in a common interest development.

(B) Two incentives or concessions for projects that include at least 17 percent of the total units for lower income households, at least 10 percent for very low income households, or at least 20 percent for persons and families of moderate income in a common interest development.

(C) Three incentives or concessions for projects that include at least 24 percent of the total units for lower income households, at least 15 percent for very low income households, or at least 30 percent for persons and families of moderate income in a common interest development.

(D) Four incentives or concessions for projects meeting the criteria of subparagraph (G) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (b). If the project is located within one-half mile of a major transit stop, the applicant shall also receive a height increase of up to three additional stories, or 33 feet.

(3) The applicant may initiate judicial proceedings if the city, county, or city and county refuses to grant a requested density bonus, incentive, or concession. If a court finds that the refusal to grant a requested density bonus, incentive, or concession is in violation of this section, the court shall award the plaintiff reasonable attorney's fees and costs of suit. Nothing in this subdivision shall be interpreted to require a local government to grant an incentive or concession that has a specific, adverse impact, as defined in paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) of Section 65589.5, upon health, safety, or the physical environment, and for which there is no feasible method to satisfactorily mitigate or avoid the specific adverse impact. Nothing in this subdivision shall be interpreted to require a local government to grant an incentive or concession that would have an adverse impact on any real property that is listed in the California Register of Historical Resources. The city, county, or city and county shall establish procedures for carrying out this section that shall include legislative body approval of the means of compliance with this section.

(4) The city, county, or city and county shall bear the burden of proof for the denial of a requested concession or incentive.

(e) (1) In no case may a city, county, or city and county apply any development standard that will have the effect of physically precluding the construction of a development meeting the criteria of subdivision (b) at the densities or with the concessions or incentives permitted by this section. Subject to paragraph (3), an applicant may submit to a city, county, or city and county a proposal for the waiver or reduction of development standards that will have the effect of physically precluding the construction of a development meeting the criteria of subdivision (b) at the densities or with the concessions or incentives permitted under this section, and may request a meeting with the city, county, or city and county. If a court finds that the refusal to grant a waiver or reduction of development standards is in violation of this section, the court shall award the plaintiff reasonable attorney's fees and costs of suit. Nothing in this subdivision shall be interpreted to require a local government to waive or reduce development standards if the waiver or reduction would have a specific, adverse impact, as defined in paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) of Section 65589.5, upon health, safety, or the physical environment, and for which there is no feasible method to satisfactorily mitigate or avoid the

specific adverse impact. Nothing in this subdivision shall be interpreted to require a local government to waive or reduce development standards that would have an adverse impact on any real property that is listed in the California Register of Historical Resources, or to grant any waiver or reduction that would be contrary to state or federal law.

(2) A proposal for the waiver or reduction of development standards pursuant to this subdivision shall neither reduce nor increase the number of incentives or concessions to which the applicant is entitled pursuant to subdivision (d).

(3) A housing development that receives a waiver from any maximum controls on density pursuant to clause (ii) of subparagraph (D) of paragraph (3) of subdivision (f) shall only be eligible for a waiver or reduction of development standards as provided in subparagraph (D) of paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) and clause (ii) of subparagraph (D) of paragraph (3) of subdivision (f), unless the city, county, or city and county agrees to additional waivers or reductions of development standards.

(f) For the purposes of this chapter, "density bonus" means a density increase over the otherwise maximum allowable gross residential density as of the date of application by the applicant to the city, county, or city and county, or, if elected by the applicant, a lesser percentage of density increase, including, but not limited to, no increase in density. The amount of density increase to which the applicant is entitled shall vary according to the amount by which the percentage of affordable housing units exceeds the percentage established in subdivision (b).

(1) For housing developments meeting the criteria of subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (b), the density bonus shall be calculated as follows:

Percentage Low-Income Units	Percentage Density Bonus
10	20
11	21.5
12	23
13	24.5
14	26
15	27.5
16	29

17	30.5
18	32
19	33.5
20	35
21	38.75
22	42.5
23	46.25
24	50

(2) For housing developments meeting the criteria of subparagraph (B) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (b), the density bonus shall be calculated as follows:

Percentage Very Low Income Units	Percentage Density Bonus
5	20
6	22.5
7	25
8	27.5
9	30
10	32.5
11	35
12	38.75
13	42.5
14	46.25
15	50

(3) (A) For housing developments meeting the criteria of subparagraph (C) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (b), the density bonus shall be 20 percent of the number of senior housing units.

(B) For housing developments meeting the criteria of subparagraph (E) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (b), the density bonus shall be 20 percent of the number of the type of units giving rise to a density bonus under that subparagraph.

(C) For housing developments meeting the criteria of subparagraph (F) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (b), the density bonus shall be 35 percent of the student housing units.

(D) For housing developments meeting the criteria of subparagraph (G) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (b), the following shall apply:

(i) Except as otherwise provided in clause (ii), the density bonus shall be 80 percent of the number of units for lower income households.

(ii) If the housing development is located within one-half mile of a major transit stop, the city, county, or city and county shall not impose any maximum controls on density.

(4) For housing developments meeting the criteria of subparagraph (D) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (b), the density bonus shall be calculated as follows:

Percentage Moderate-Income Units	Percentage Density Bonus
10	5
11	6
12	7
13	8
14	9
15	10
16	11
17	12
18	13
19	14
20	15
21	16
22	17
23	18
24	19
25	20
26	21
27	22
28	23
29	24
30	25
31	26
32	27
33	28
34	29
35	30
36	31
37	32
38	33

39	34
40	35
41	38.75
42	42.5
43	46.25
44	50

(5) All density calculations resulting in fractional units shall be rounded up to the next whole number. The granting of a density bonus shall not require, or be interpreted, in and of itself, to require a general plan amendment, local coastal plan amendment, zoning change, or other discretionary approval.

(g) (1) When an applicant for a tentative subdivision map, parcel map, or other residential development approval donates land to a city, county, or city and county in accordance with this subdivision, the applicant shall be entitled to a 15-percent increase above the otherwise maximum allowable residential density for the entire development, as follows:

Percentage Very Low Income	Percentage Density Bonus
10	15
11	16
12	17
13	18
14	19
15	20
16	21
17	22
18	23
19	24
20	25
21	26
22	27
23	28
24	29
25	30
26	31
27	32
28	33
29	34

(2) This increase shall be in addition to any increase in density mandated by subdivision (b), up to a maximum combined mandated density increase of 35 percent if an applicant seeks an increase pursuant to both this subdivision and subdivision (b). All density calculations resulting in fractional units shall be rounded up to the next whole number. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to enlarge or diminish the authority of a city, county, or city and county to require a developer to donate land as a condition of development. An applicant shall be eligible for the increased density bonus described in this subdivision if all of the following conditions are met:

(A) The applicant donates and transfers the land no later than the date of approval of the final subdivision map, parcel map, or residential development application.

(B) The developable acreage and zoning classification of the land being transferred are sufficient to permit construction of units affordable to very low income households in an amount not less than 10 percent of the number of residential units of the proposed development.

(C) The transferred land is at least one acre in size or of sufficient size to permit development of at least 40 units, has the appropriate general plan designation, is appropriately zoned with appropriate development standards for development at the density described in paragraph (3) of subdivision (c) of Section 65583.2, and is or will be served by adequate public facilities and infrastructure.

(D) The transferred land shall have all of the permits and approvals, other than building permits, necessary for the development of the very low income housing units on the transferred land, not later than the date of approval of the final subdivision map, parcel map, or residential development application, except that the local government may subject the proposed development to subsequent design review to the extent authorized by subdivision (i) of Section 65583.2 if the design is not reviewed by the local government before the time of transfer.

(E) The transferred land and the affordable units shall be subject to a deed restriction ensuring continued affordability of the units

consistent with paragraphs (1) and (2) of subdivision (c), which shall be recorded on the property at the time of the transfer.

(F) The land is transferred to the local agency or to a housing developer approved by the local agency. The local agency may require the applicant to identify and transfer the land to the developer.

(G) The transferred land shall be within the boundary of the proposed development or, if the local agency agrees, within one-quarter mile of the boundary of the proposed development.

(H) A proposed source of funding for the very low income units shall be identified not later than the date of approval of the final subdivision map, parcel map, or residential development application.

(h) (1) When an applicant proposes to construct a housing development that conforms to the requirements of subdivision (b) and includes a childcare facility that will be located on the premises of, as part of, or adjacent to, the project, the city, county, or city and county shall grant either of the following:

(A) An additional density bonus that is an amount of square feet of residential space that is equal to or greater than the amount of square feet in the childcare facility.

(B) An additional concession or incentive that contributes significantly to the economic feasibility of the construction of the childcare facility.

(2) The city, county, or city and county shall require, as a condition of approving the housing development, that the following occur:

(A) The childcare facility shall remain in operation for a period of time that is as long as or longer than the period of time during which the density bonus units are required to remain affordable pursuant to subdivision (c).

(B) Of the children who attend the childcare facility, the children of very low income households, lower income households, or families of moderate income shall equal a percentage that is equal to or greater than the percentage of dwelling units that are required for very low income households, lower income households, or families of moderate income pursuant to subdivision (b).

(3) Notwithstanding any requirement of this subdivision, a city, county, or city and county shall not be required to provide a density bonus or concession for a childcare facility if it finds, based upon

substantial evidence, that the community has adequate childcare facilities.

(4) "Childcare facility," as used in this section, means a child daycare facility other than a family daycare home, including, but not limited to, infant centers, preschools, extended daycare facilities, and schoolage childcare centers.

(i) If the housing development qualifies for one or more density bonuses pursuant to subdivisions (b) to (h), inclusive, and is located on a site that meets all of the criteria in paragraphs (1) to (3), inclusive, below, the development shall receive a supplemental height bonus of 10 feet or 20 percent of the height limit that would otherwise apply to the development, whichever is greater, and a supplemental density bonus of 20 percent of the density limit that would otherwise apply to the development. These bonuses are in addition to the bonuses and waivers or concessions otherwise available to the project pursuant to subdivisions (b) through (h), inclusive.

(1) The site is not located in a moderate, high or very high fire hazard severity zone as mapped by the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection's most recent Fire Hazard Severity Zone map.

(2) (A) If the site is a legal parcel or parcels located in a city, the city boundaries include some portion of either an urbanized area or urban cluster, as designated by the United States Census Bureau.

(B) If the site is a legal parcel or parcels located in the unincorporated area of a county, the legal parcel or parcels are wholly within the boundaries of an urbanized area or urban cluster, as designated by the United States Census Bureau.

(3) At least 75 percent of the perimeter of the site adjoins parcels that are developed with urban uses. For the purposes of this subdivision, parcels that are only separated by a street or highway shall be considered to be adjoined.

~~(i)~~

(j) "Housing development," as used in this section, means a development project for five or more residential units, including mixed-use developments. For the purposes of this section, "housing development" also includes a subdivision or common interest development, as defined in Section 4100 of the Civil Code, approved by a city, county, or city and county and consists of residential units or unimproved residential lots and either a project

to substantially rehabilitate and convert an existing commercial building to residential use or the substantial rehabilitation of an existing multifamily dwelling, as defined in subdivision (d) of Section 65863.4, where the result of the rehabilitation would be a net increase in available residential units. For the purpose of calculating a density bonus, the residential units shall be on contiguous sites that are the subject of one development application, but do not have to be based upon individual subdivision maps or parcels. The density bonus shall be permitted in geographic areas of the housing development other than the areas where the units for the lower income households are located.

~~(j)~~

(k) (1) The granting of a concession or incentive shall not require or be interpreted, in and of itself, to require a general plan amendment, local coastal plan amendment, zoning change, study, or other discretionary approval. For purposes of this subdivision, "study" does not include reasonable documentation to establish eligibility for the concession or incentive or to demonstrate that the incentive or concession meets the definition set forth in subdivision ~~(k).~~ *(l).* This provision is declaratory of existing law.

(2) Except as provided in subdivisions (d) and (e), the granting of a density bonus shall not require or be interpreted to require the waiver of a local ordinance or provisions of a local ordinance unrelated to development standards.

~~(k)~~

(l) For the purposes of this chapter, concession or incentive means any of the following:

(1) A reduction in site development standards or a modification of zoning code requirements or architectural design requirements that exceed the minimum building standards approved by the California Building Standards Commission as provided in Part 2.5 (commencing with Section 18901) of Division 13 of the Health and Safety Code, including, but not limited to, a reduction in setback and square footage requirements and in the ratio of vehicular parking spaces that would otherwise be required that results in identifiable and actual cost reductions, to provide for affordable housing costs, as defined in Section 50052.5 of the Health and Safety Code, or for rents for the targeted units to be set as specified in subdivision (c).

(2) Approval of mixed-use zoning in conjunction with the housing project if commercial, office, industrial, or other land uses will reduce the cost of the housing development and if the commercial, office, industrial, or other land uses are compatible with the housing project and the existing or planned development in the area where the proposed housing project will be located.

(3) Other regulatory incentives or concessions proposed by the developer or the city, county, or city and county that result in identifiable and actual cost reductions to provide for affordable housing costs, as defined in Section 50052.5 of the Health and Safety Code, or for rents for the targeted units to be set as specified in subdivision (c).

~~(l)~~

(m) Subdivision ~~(k)~~ *(l)* does not limit or require the provision of direct financial incentives for the housing development, including the provision of publicly owned land, by the city, county, or city and county, or the waiver of fees or dedication requirements.

~~(m)~~

(n) This section does not supersede or in any way alter or lessen the effect or application of the California Coastal Act of 1976 (Division 20 (commencing with Section 30000) of the Public Resources Code). Any density bonus, concessions, incentives, waivers or reductions of development standards, and parking ratios to which the applicant is entitled under this section shall be permitted in a manner that is consistent with this section and Division 20 (commencing with Section 30000) of the Public Resources Code.

~~(n)~~

(o) If permitted by local ordinance, nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit a city, county, or city and county from granting a density bonus greater than what is described in this section for a development that meets the requirements of this section or from granting a proportionately lower density bonus than what is required by this section for developments that do not meet the requirements of this section.

~~(o)~~

(p) For purposes of this section, the following definitions shall apply:

(1) “Development standard” includes a site or construction condition, including, but not limited to, a height limitation, a

setback requirement, a floor area ratio, an onsite open-space requirement, or a parking ratio that applies to a residential development pursuant to any ordinance, general plan element, specific plan, charter, or other local condition, law, policy, resolution, or regulation.

(2) "Located within one-half mile of a major transit stop" means that any point on a proposed development, for which an applicant seeks a density bonus, other incentives or concessions, waivers or reductions of development standards, or a vehicular parking ratio pursuant to this section, is within one-half mile of any point on the property on which a major transit stop is located, including any parking lot owned by the transit authority or other local agency operating the major transit stop.

(3) "Major transit stop" has the same meaning as defined in subdivision (b) of Section 21155 of the Public Resources Code.

(4) "Maximum allowable residential density" means the density allowed under the zoning ordinance and land use element of the general plan, or, if a range of density is permitted, means the maximum allowable density for the specific zoning range and land use element of the general plan applicable to the project. If the density allowed under the zoning ordinance is inconsistent with the density allowed under the land use element of the general plan, the general plan density shall prevail.

~~(p)~~

(q) (1) Except as provided in paragraphs (2), (3), and (4), upon the request of the developer, a city, county, or city and county shall not require a vehicular parking ratio, inclusive of parking for persons with a disability and guests, of a development meeting the criteria of subdivisions (b) and (c), that exceeds the following ratios:

(A) Zero to one bedroom: one onsite parking space.

(B) Two to three bedrooms: one and one-half onsite parking spaces.

(C) Four and more bedrooms: two and one-half parking spaces.

(2) (A) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), if a development includes at least 20 percent low-income units for housing developments meeting the criteria of subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (b) or at least 11 percent very low income units for housing developments meeting the criteria of subparagraph (B) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (b), is located within one-half

mile of a major transit stop, and there is unobstructed access to the major transit stop from the development, then, upon the request of the developer, a city, county, or city and county shall not impose a vehicular parking ratio, inclusive of parking for persons with a disability and guests, that exceeds 0.5 spaces per unit.

(B) For purposes of this subdivision, a development shall have unobstructed access to a major transit stop if a resident is able to access the major transit stop without encountering natural or constructed impediments. For purposes of this subparagraph, "natural or constructed impediments" includes, but is not limited to, freeways, rivers, mountains, and bodies of water, but does not include residential structures, shopping centers, parking lots, or rails used for transit.

(3) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), if a development consists solely of rental units, exclusive of a manager's unit or units, with an affordable housing cost to lower income families, as provided in Section 50052.5 of the Health and Safety Code, then, upon the request of the developer, a city, county, or city and county shall not impose vehicular parking standards if the development meets either of the following criteria:

(A) The development is located within one-half mile of a major transit stop and there is unobstructed access to the major transit stop from the development.

(B) The development is a for-rent housing development for individuals who are 62 years of age or older that complies with Sections 51.2 and 51.3 of the Civil Code and the development has either paratransit service or unobstructed access, within one-half mile, to fixed bus route service that operates at least eight times per day.

(4) Notwithstanding paragraphs (1) and (8), if a development consists solely of rental units, exclusive of a manager's unit or units, with an affordable housing cost to lower income families, as provided in Section 50052.5 of the Health and Safety Code, and the development is either a special needs housing development, as defined in Section 51312 of the Health and Safety Code, or a supportive housing development, as defined in Section 50675.14 of the Health and Safety Code, then, upon the request of the developer, a city, county, or city and county shall not impose any minimum vehicular parking requirement. A development that is a special needs housing development shall have either paratransit

service or unobstructed access, within one-half mile, to fixed bus route service that operates at least eight times per day.

(5) If the total number of parking spaces required for a development is other than a whole number, the number shall be rounded up to the next whole number. For purposes of this subdivision, a development may provide onsite parking through tandem parking or uncovered parking, but not through onstreet parking.

(6) This subdivision shall apply to a development that meets the requirements of subdivisions (b) and (c), but only at the request of the applicant. An applicant may request parking incentives or concessions beyond those provided in this subdivision pursuant to subdivision (d).

(7) This subdivision does not preclude a city, county, or city and county from reducing or eliminating a parking requirement for development projects of any type in any location.

(8) Notwithstanding paragraphs (2) and (3), if a city, county, city and county, or an independent consultant has conducted an areawide or jurisdictionwide parking study in the last seven years, then the city, county, or city and county may impose a higher vehicular parking ratio not to exceed the ratio described in paragraph (1), based upon substantial evidence found in the parking study, that includes, but is not limited to, an analysis of parking availability, differing levels of transit access, walkability access to transit services, the potential for shared parking, the effect of parking requirements on the cost of market-rate and subsidized developments, and the lower rates of car ownership for low-income and very low income individuals, including seniors and special needs individuals. The city, county, or city and county shall pay the costs of any new study. The city, county, or city and county shall make findings, based on a parking study completed in conformity with this paragraph, supporting the need for the higher parking ratio.

(9) A request pursuant to this subdivision shall neither reduce nor increase the number of incentives or concessions to which the applicant is entitled pursuant to subdivision (d).

~~(q)~~

(r) Each component of any density calculation, including base density and bonus density, resulting in fractional units shall be

separately rounded up to the next whole number. The Legislature finds and declares that this provision is declaratory of existing law.

~~(r)~~

(s) This chapter shall be interpreted liberally in favor of producing the maximum number of total housing units.

~~(s)~~

(t) Notwithstanding any other law, if a city, including a charter city, county, or city and county has adopted an ordinance or a housing program, or both an ordinance and a housing program, that incentivizes the development of affordable housing that allows for density bonuses that exceed the density bonuses required by the version of this section effective through December 31, 2020, that city, county, or city and county is not required to amend or otherwise update its ordinance or corresponding affordable housing incentive program to comply with the amendments made to this section by the act adding this subdivision, and is exempt from complying with the incentive and concession calculation amendments made to this section by the act adding this subdivision as set forth in subdivision (d), particularly subparagraphs (C) and (D) of paragraph (2) of that subdivision, and the amendments made to the density tables under subdivision (f).

~~SEC. 2.~~

SEC. 4. The Legislature finds and declares that the prohibition on the creation or approval of a new development within a zone of high fire danger as specified in this act is a matter of statewide concern and is not a municipal affair as that term is used in Section 5 of Article XI of the California Constitution. Therefore, Section 1 of this act adding Section 51182.5 to the Government Code applies to all cities, including charter cities.

~~SEC. 3.~~

SEC. 5. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because a local agency or school district has the authority to levy service charges, fees, or assessments sufficient to pay for the program or level of service mandated by this act, within the meaning of Section 17556 of the Government Code.

O

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 51182.5 is added to the Government Code, to read:

51182.5. (a) Notwithstanding any law, in furtherance of state housing production and wildfire mitigation goals under Assembly Bill 101 (Chapter 159 of the Statutes of 2019), Section 4290 of the Public Resources Code, and subdivision (g) of Section 65088, a new development shall not be created or approved in a very high fire hazard severity zone or a state responsibility ~~area.~~ *area unless the county and, if applicable, the city is in substantial compliance with the "Fire Hazard Planning, General Plan Technical Advice Series" guidance document updated by the Office of Planning and Research pursuant to Section 65040.21.*

(b) For purposes of this ~~section, "development"~~ *section:*

(1) "Development" means either of the following:

~~(1)~~

(A) A project containing residential dwellings, including, but not limited to, mobilehomes, accessory dwelling units, and junior accessory dwelling units, of one or more units or a subdivision of land for the purpose of constructing one or more residential dwelling units.

~~(2)~~

(B) A project for commercial, retail, or industrial use.

(2) "New development" does not include either of the following:

(A) The reconstruction, restoration, or rebuilding of a development that is involuntarily damaged or destroyed by fire or other catastrophic event.

(B) Construction on an existing residential dwelling.

(C) Construction required to maintain a facility or infrastructure associated with the delivery of essential public services, including, but not limited to, the provision of water service, electric service, and wastewater collection and treatment.

(D) Construction of a new facility or infrastructure intended for fire prevention or response.

(3) "Substantial compliance" means actual compliance with every essential and relevant aspect of the document described in subdivision (a).

SEC. 2. The Legislature finds and declares that the prohibition on the creation or approval of a new development within a zone of high fire danger as specified in this act is a matter of statewide concern and is not a municipal affair as that term is used in Section 5 of Article XI of the California Constitution. Therefore, Section 1 of this act adding Section 51182.5 to the Government Code applies to all cities, including charter cities.

SEC. 3. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIIIB of the California Constitution because a local agency or school district has the authority to levy service charges, fees, or assessments sufficient to

pay for the program or level of service mandated by this act, within the meaning of Section 17556 of the Government Code.

(PU 20190SB__047496AMD)

SENATE BILL No. 765

Introduced by Senator Stern
(Principal coauthor: Assembly Member Friedman)

February 19, 2021

An act to amend Section 65852.2 of the Government Code, relating to land use.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 765, as introduced, Stern. Accessory dwelling units: setbacks.

The Planning and Zoning Law, among other things, provides for the creation of accessory dwelling units by local ordinance, or, if a local agency has not adopted an ordinance, by ministerial approval, in accordance with specified standards and conditions. Existing law prohibits a local agency's accessory dwelling unit ordinance from imposing a setback requirement of more than 4 feet from the side and rear lot lines for an accessory dwelling unit that is not converted from an existing structure or a new structure constructed in the same location and to the same dimensions as an existing structure.

This bill would remove the above-described prohibition on a local agency's accessory dwelling unit ordinance, and would instead provide that the rear and side yard setback requirements for accessory dwelling units may be set by the local agency. The bill would authorize an accessory dwelling unit applicant to submit a request to the local agency for an alternative rear and side yard setback requirement if the local agency's setback requirements make the building of the accessory dwelling unit infeasible. The bill would prohibit any rear and side yard setback requirements established pursuant to these provisions from being greater than those in effect as of January 1, 2020. The bill would specify that if the local agency did not have an accessory dwelling unit

ordinance as of January 1, 2020, the applicable rear and side yard setback requirement is 4 feet.

By requiring local agencies to review an applicant's request for an alternative rear and side yard setback requirement, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 65852.2 of the Government Code, as amended by Section 3.5 of Chapter 198 of the Statutes of 2020, is amended to read:

65852.2. (a) (1) A local agency may, by ordinance, provide for the creation of accessory dwelling units in areas zoned to allow single-family or multifamily dwelling residential use. The ordinance shall do all of the following:

(A) Designate areas within the jurisdiction of the local agency where accessory dwelling units may be permitted. The designation of areas may be based on the adequacy of water and sewer services and the impact of accessory dwelling units on traffic flow and public safety. A local agency that does not provide water or sewer services shall consult with the local water or sewer service provider regarding the adequacy of water and sewer services before designating an area where accessory dwelling units may be permitted.

(B) (i) Impose standards on accessory dwelling units that include, but are not limited to, parking, height, setback, landscape, architectural review, maximum size of a unit, and standards that prevent adverse impacts on any real property that is listed in the California Register of Historic Resources. These standards shall not include requirements on minimum lot size.

(ii) Notwithstanding clause (i), a local agency may reduce or eliminate parking requirements for any accessory dwelling unit located within its jurisdiction.

(C) Provide that accessory dwelling units do not exceed the allowable density for the lot upon which the accessory dwelling unit is located, and that accessory dwelling units are a residential use that is consistent with the existing general plan and zoning designation for the lot.

(D) Require the accessory dwelling units to comply with all of the following:

(i) The accessory dwelling unit may be rented separate from the primary residence, but may not be sold or otherwise conveyed separate from the primary residence.

(ii) The lot is zoned to allow single-family or multifamily dwelling residential use and includes a proposed or existing dwelling.

(iii) The accessory dwelling unit is either attached to, or located within, the proposed or existing primary dwelling, including attached garages, storage areas or similar uses, or an accessory structure or detached from the proposed or existing primary dwelling and located on the same lot as the proposed or existing primary dwelling.

(iv) If there is an existing primary dwelling, the total floor area of an attached accessory dwelling unit shall not exceed 50 percent of the existing primary dwelling.

(v) The total floor area for a detached accessory dwelling unit shall not exceed 1,200 square feet.

(vi) No passageway shall be required in conjunction with the construction of an accessory dwelling unit.

(vii) No setback shall be required for an existing living area or accessory structure or a structure constructed in the same location and to the same dimensions as an existing structure that is converted to an accessory dwelling unit or to a portion of an accessory dwelling ~~unit, and a setback of no more than four feet from the side and rear lot lines shall be required for an accessory dwelling unit that is not converted from an existing structure or a new structure constructed in the same location and to the same dimensions as an existing structure.~~ *unit.*

(viii) (I) Rear and side yard setback requirements for accessory dwelling units shall be established by the local agency, except as otherwise provided in clause (vii) and this clause.

(II) An applicant for an accessory dwelling unit may submit a request to the local agency for an alternative rear and side yard

setback requirement based upon specific site topographical conditions if the local agency's setback requirements make the building of the accessory dwelling unit infeasible. The local agency may approve the request upon making a finding that the alternative setback is necessary to make the building of the accessory dwelling unit feasible and the alternative setback requirement adjusts the setback requirement only to the extent necessary to accommodate the accessory dwelling unit.

(III) In no event shall the local agency's rear and side yard setback requirements be greater than those in effect as of January 1, 2020.

(IV) If the local agency did not have an accessory dwelling unit ordinance as of January 1, 2020, the rear and side yard setback requirement shall be four feet.

~~(viii)~~

(ix) Local building code requirements that apply to detached dwellings, as appropriate.

~~(ix)~~

(x) Approval by the local health officer where a private sewage disposal system is being used, if required.

~~(x)~~

(xi) (I) Parking requirements for accessory dwelling units shall not exceed one parking space per accessory dwelling unit or per bedroom, whichever is less. These spaces may be provided as tandem parking on a driveway.

(II) Offstreet parking shall be permitted in setback areas in locations determined by the local agency or through tandem parking, unless specific findings are made that parking in setback areas or tandem parking is not feasible based upon specific site or regional topographical or fire and life safety conditions.

(III) This clause shall not apply to an accessory dwelling unit that is described in subdivision (d).

~~(xi)~~

(xii) When a garage, carport, or covered parking structure is demolished in conjunction with the construction of an accessory dwelling unit or converted to an accessory dwelling unit, the local agency shall not require that those offstreet parking spaces be replaced.

~~(xii)~~

(xiii) Accessory dwelling units shall not be required to provide fire sprinklers if they are not required for the primary residence.

(2) The ordinance shall not be considered in the application of any local ordinance, policy, or program to limit residential growth.

(3) A permit application for an accessory dwelling unit or a junior accessory dwelling unit shall be considered and approved ministerially without discretionary review or a hearing, notwithstanding Section 65901 or 65906 or any local ordinance regulating the issuance of variances or special use permits. The permitting agency shall act on the application to create an accessory dwelling unit or a junior accessory dwelling unit within 60 days from the date the local agency receives a completed application if there is an existing single-family or multifamily dwelling on the lot. If the permit application to create an accessory dwelling unit or a junior accessory dwelling unit is submitted with a permit application to create a new single-family dwelling on the lot, the permitting agency may delay acting on the permit application for the accessory dwelling unit or the junior accessory dwelling unit until the permitting agency acts on the permit application to create the new single-family dwelling, but the application to create the accessory dwelling unit or junior accessory dwelling unit shall be considered without discretionary review or hearing. If the applicant requests a delay, the 60-day time period shall be tolled for the period of the delay. If the local agency has not acted upon the completed application within 60 days, the application shall be deemed approved. A local agency may charge a fee to reimburse it for costs incurred to implement this paragraph, including the costs of adopting or amending any ordinance that provides for the creation of an accessory dwelling unit.

(4) An existing ordinance governing the creation of an accessory dwelling unit by a local agency or an accessory dwelling ordinance adopted by a local agency shall provide an approval process that includes only ministerial provisions for the approval of accessory dwelling units and shall not include any discretionary processes, provisions, or requirements for those units, except as otherwise provided in this subdivision. If a local agency has an existing accessory dwelling unit ordinance that fails to meet the requirements of this subdivision, that ordinance shall be null and void and that agency shall thereafter apply the standards established in this subdivision for the approval of accessory dwelling units,

unless and until the agency adopts an ordinance that complies with this section.

(5) No other local ordinance, policy, or regulation shall be the basis for the delay or denial of a building permit or a use permit under this subdivision.

(6) This subdivision establishes the maximum standards that local agencies shall use to evaluate a proposed accessory dwelling unit on a lot that includes a proposed or existing single-family dwelling. No additional standards, other than those provided in this subdivision, shall be used or imposed, including any owner-occupant requirement, except that a local agency may require that the property be used for rentals of terms longer than 30 days.

(7) A local agency may amend its zoning ordinance or general plan to incorporate the policies, procedures, or other provisions applicable to the creation of an accessory dwelling unit if these provisions are consistent with the limitations of this subdivision.

(8) An accessory dwelling unit that conforms to this subdivision shall be deemed to be an accessory use or an accessory building and shall not be considered to exceed the allowable density for the lot upon which it is located, and shall be deemed to be a residential use that is consistent with the existing general plan and zoning designations for the lot. The accessory dwelling unit shall not be considered in the application of any local ordinance, policy, or program to limit residential growth.

(b) When a local agency that has not adopted an ordinance governing accessory dwelling units in accordance with subdivision (a) receives an application for a permit to create an accessory dwelling unit pursuant to this subdivision, the local agency shall approve or disapprove the application ministerially without discretionary review pursuant to subdivision (a). The permitting agency shall act on the application to create an accessory dwelling unit or a junior accessory dwelling unit within 60 days from the date the local agency receives a completed application if there is an existing single-family or multifamily dwelling on the lot. If the permit application to create an accessory dwelling unit or a junior accessory dwelling unit is submitted with a permit application to create a new single-family dwelling on the lot, the permitting agency may delay acting on the permit application for the accessory dwelling unit or the junior accessory dwelling unit until the

permitting agency acts on the permit application to create the new single-family dwelling, but the application to create the accessory dwelling unit or junior accessory dwelling unit shall still be considered ministerially without discretionary review or a hearing. If the applicant requests a delay, the 60-day time period shall be tolled for the period of the delay. If the local agency has not acted upon the completed application within 60 days, the application shall be deemed approved.

(c) (1) Subject to paragraph (2), a local agency may establish minimum and maximum unit size requirements for both attached and detached accessory dwelling units.

(2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), a local agency shall not establish by ordinance any of the following:

(A) A minimum square footage requirement for either an attached or detached accessory dwelling unit that prohibits an efficiency unit.

(B) A maximum square footage requirement for either an attached or detached accessory dwelling unit that is less than either of the following:

(i) 850 square feet.

(ii) 1,000 square feet for an accessory dwelling unit that provides more than one bedroom.

(C) Any other minimum or maximum size for an accessory dwelling unit, size based upon a percentage of the proposed or existing primary dwelling, or limits on lot coverage, floor area ratio, open space, and minimum lot size, for either attached or detached dwellings that does not permit at least an 800 square foot accessory dwelling unit that is at least 16 feet in height ~~with four-foot side and rear yard setbacks~~ to be constructed in compliance with all other local development standards.

(d) Notwithstanding any other law, a local agency, whether or not it has adopted an ordinance governing accessory dwelling units in accordance with subdivision (a), shall not impose parking standards for an accessory dwelling unit in any of the following instances:

(1) The accessory dwelling unit is located within one-half mile walking distance of public transit.

(2) The accessory dwelling unit is located within an architecturally and historically significant historic district.

(3) The accessory dwelling unit is part of the proposed or existing primary residence or an accessory structure.

(4) When on-street parking permits are required but not offered to the occupant of the accessory dwelling unit.

(5) When there is a car share vehicle located within one block of the accessory dwelling unit.

(e) (1) Notwithstanding subdivisions (a) to (d), inclusive, a local agency shall ministerially approve an application for a building permit within a residential or mixed-use zone to create any of the following:

(A) One accessory dwelling unit and one junior accessory dwelling unit per lot with a proposed or existing single-family dwelling if all of the following apply:

(i) The accessory dwelling unit or junior accessory dwelling unit is within the proposed space of a single-family dwelling or existing space of a single-family dwelling or accessory structure and may include an expansion of not more than 150 square feet beyond the same physical dimensions as the existing accessory structure. An expansion beyond the physical dimensions of the existing accessory structure shall be limited to accommodating ingress and egress.

(ii) The space has exterior access from the proposed or existing single-family dwelling.

(iii) The side and rear setbacks are sufficient for fire and safety.

(iv) The junior accessory dwelling unit complies with the requirements of Section 65852.22.

(B) One detached, new construction, accessory dwelling unit ~~that does not exceed four-foot side and rear yard setbacks~~ for a lot with a proposed or existing single-family dwelling. The accessory dwelling unit may be combined with a junior accessory dwelling unit described in subparagraph (A). A local agency may impose the following conditions on the accessory dwelling unit:

(i) A total floor area limitation of not more than 800 square feet.

(ii) A height limitation of 16 feet.

(C) (i) Multiple accessory dwelling units within the portions of existing multifamily dwelling structures that are not used as livable space, including, but not limited to, storage rooms, boiler rooms, passageways, attics, basements, or garages, if each unit complies with state building standards for dwellings.

(ii) A local agency shall allow at least one accessory dwelling unit within an existing multifamily dwelling and shall allow up to 25 percent of the existing multifamily dwelling units.

(D) Not more than two accessory dwelling units that are located on a lot that has an existing multifamily dwelling, but are detached from that multifamily dwelling and are subject to a height limit of 16 ~~feet and four-foot rear yard and side setbacks.~~ *feet.*

(2) A local agency shall not require, as a condition for ministerial approval of a permit application for the creation of an accessory dwelling unit or a junior accessory dwelling unit, the correction of nonconforming zoning conditions.

(3) The installation of fire sprinklers shall not be required in an accessory dwelling unit if sprinklers are not required for the primary residence.

(4) A local agency shall require that a rental of the accessory dwelling unit created pursuant to this subdivision be for a term longer than 30 days.

(5) A local agency may require, as part of the application for a permit to create an accessory dwelling unit connected to an onsite wastewater treatment system, a percolation test completed within the last five years, or, if the percolation test has been recertified, within the last 10 years.

(6) Notwithstanding subdivision (c) and paragraph (1) a local agency that has adopted an ordinance by July 1, 2018, providing for the approval of accessory dwelling units in multifamily dwelling structures shall ministerially consider a permit application to construct an accessory dwelling unit that is described in paragraph (1), and may impose standards including, but not limited to, design, development, and historic standards on said accessory dwelling units. These standards shall not include requirements on minimum lot size.

(f) (1) Fees charged for the construction of accessory dwelling units shall be determined in accordance with Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 66000) and Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 66012).

(2) An accessory dwelling unit shall not be considered by a local agency, special district, or water corporation to be a new residential use for purposes of calculating connection fees or capacity charges for utilities, including water and sewer service,

unless the accessory dwelling unit was constructed with a new single-family dwelling.

(3) (A) A local agency, special district, or water corporation shall not impose any impact fee upon the development of an accessory dwelling unit less than 750 square feet. Any impact fees charged for an accessory dwelling unit of 750 square feet or more shall be charged proportionately in relation to the square footage of the primary dwelling unit.

(B) For purposes of this paragraph, "impact fee" has the same meaning as the term "fee" is defined in subdivision (b) of Section 66000, except that it also includes fees specified in Section 66477. "Impact fee" does not include any connection fee or capacity charge charged by a local agency, special district, or water corporation.

(4) For an accessory dwelling unit described in subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (e), a local agency, special district, or water corporation shall not require the applicant to install a new or separate utility connection directly between the accessory dwelling unit and the utility or impose a related connection fee or capacity charge, unless the accessory dwelling unit was constructed with a new single-family home.

(5) For an accessory dwelling unit that is not described in subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (e), a local agency, special district, or water corporation may require a new or separate utility connection directly between the accessory dwelling unit and the utility. Consistent with Section 66013, the connection may be subject to a connection fee or capacity charge that shall be proportionate to the burden of the proposed accessory dwelling unit, based upon either its square feet or the number of its drainage fixture unit (DFU) values, as defined in the Uniform Plumbing Code adopted and published by the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials, upon the water or sewer system. This fee or charge shall not exceed the reasonable cost of providing this service.

(g) This section does not limit the authority of local agencies to adopt less restrictive requirements for the creation of an accessory dwelling unit.

(h) (1) A local agency shall submit a copy of the ordinance adopted pursuant to subdivision (a) to the Department of Housing and Community Development within 60 days after adoption. After

adoption of an ordinance, the department may submit written findings to the local agency as to whether the ordinance complies with this section.

(2) (A) If the department finds that the local agency's ordinance does not comply with this section, the department shall notify the local agency and shall provide the local agency with a reasonable time, no longer than 30 days, to respond to the findings before taking any other action authorized by this section.

(B) The local agency shall consider the findings made by the department pursuant to subparagraph (A) and shall do one of the following:

(i) Amend the ordinance to comply with this section.

(ii) Adopt the ordinance without changes. The local agency shall include findings in its resolution adopting the ordinance that explain the reasons the local agency believes that the ordinance complies with this section despite the findings of the department.

(3) (A) If the local agency does not amend its ordinance in response to the department's findings or does not adopt a resolution with findings explaining the reason the ordinance complies with this section and addressing the department's findings, the department shall notify the local agency and may notify the Attorney General that the local agency is in violation of state law.

(B) Before notifying the Attorney General that the local agency is in violation of state law, the department may consider whether a local agency adopted an ordinance in compliance with this section between January 1, 2017, and January 1, 2020.

(i) The department may review, adopt, amend, or repeal guidelines to implement uniform standards or criteria that supplement or clarify the terms, references, and standards set forth in this section. The guidelines adopted pursuant to this subdivision are not subject to Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2.

(j) As used in this section, the following terms mean:

(1) "Accessory dwelling unit" means an attached or a detached residential dwelling unit that provides complete independent living facilities for one or more persons and is located on a lot with a proposed or existing primary residence. It shall include permanent provisions for living, sleeping, eating, cooking, and sanitation on the same parcel as the single-family or multifamily dwelling is or

will be situated. An accessory dwelling unit also includes the following:

(A) An efficiency unit.

(B) A manufactured home, as defined in Section 18007 of the Health and Safety Code.

(2) "Accessory structure" means a structure that is accessory and incidental to a dwelling located on the same lot.

(3) "Efficiency unit" has the same meaning as defined in Section 17958.1 of the Health and Safety Code.

(4) "Living area" means the interior habitable area of a dwelling unit, including basements and attics, but does not include a garage or any accessory structure.

(5) "Local agency" means a city, county, or city and county, whether general law or chartered.

(6) "Nonconforming zoning condition" means a physical improvement on a property that does not conform with current zoning standards.

(7) "Passageway" means a pathway that is unobstructed clear to the sky and extends from a street to one entrance of the accessory dwelling unit.

(8) "Proposed dwelling" means a dwelling that is the subject of a permit application and that meets the requirements for permitting.

(9) "Public transit" means a location, including, but not limited to, a bus stop or train station, where the public may access buses, trains, subways, and other forms of transportation that charge set fares, run on fixed routes, and are available to the public.

(10) "Tandem parking" means that two or more automobiles are parked on a driveway or in any other location on a lot, lined up behind one another.

(k) A local agency shall not issue a certificate of occupancy for an accessory dwelling unit before the local agency issues a certificate of occupancy for the primary dwelling.

(*l*) Nothing in this section shall be construed to supersede or in any way alter or lessen the effect or application of the California Coastal Act of 1976 (Division 20 (commencing with Section 30000) of the Public Resources Code), except that the local government shall not be required to hold public hearings for coastal development permit applications for accessory dwelling units.

(m) A local agency may count an accessory dwelling unit for purposes of identifying adequate sites for housing, as specified in

subdivision (a) of Section 65583.1, subject to authorization by the department and compliance with this division.

(n) In enforcing building standards pursuant to Article 1 (commencing with Section 17960) of Chapter 5 of Part 1.5 of Division 13 of the Health and Safety Code for an accessory dwelling unit described in paragraph (1) or (2) below, a local agency, upon request of an owner of an accessory dwelling unit for a delay in enforcement, shall delay enforcement of a building standard, subject to compliance with Section 17980.12 of the Health and Safety Code:

(1) The accessory dwelling unit was built before January 1, 2020.

(2) The accessory dwelling unit was built on or after January 1, 2020, in a local jurisdiction that, at the time the accessory dwelling unit was built, had a noncompliant accessory dwelling unit ordinance, but the ordinance is compliant at the time the request is made.

(o) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2025, and as of that date is repealed.

SEC. 2. Section 65852.2 of the Government Code, as amended by Section 4.5 of Chapter 198 of the Statutes of 2020, is amended to read:

65852.2. (a) (1) A local agency may, by ordinance, provide for the creation of accessory dwelling units in areas zoned to allow single-family or multifamily dwelling residential use. The ordinance shall do all of the following:

(A) Designate areas within the jurisdiction of the local agency where accessory dwelling units may be permitted. The designation of areas may be based on the adequacy of water and sewer services and the impact of accessory dwelling units on traffic flow and public safety. A local agency that does not provide water or sewer services shall consult with the local water or sewer service provider regarding the adequacy of water and sewer services before designating an area where accessory dwelling units may be permitted.

(B) (i) Impose standards on accessory dwelling units that include, but are not limited to, parking, height, setback, landscape, architectural review, maximum size of a unit, and standards that prevent adverse impacts on any real property that is listed in the

California Register of Historic Resources. These standards shall not include requirements on minimum lot size.

(ii) Notwithstanding clause (i), a local agency may reduce or eliminate parking requirements for any accessory dwelling unit located within its jurisdiction.

(C) Provide that accessory dwelling units do not exceed the allowable density for the lot upon which the accessory dwelling unit is located, and that accessory dwelling units are a residential use that is consistent with the existing general plan and zoning designation for the lot.

(D) Require the accessory dwelling units to comply with all of the following:

(i) The accessory dwelling unit may be rented separate from the primary residence, but may not be sold or otherwise conveyed separate from the primary residence.

(ii) The lot is zoned to allow single-family or multifamily dwelling residential use and includes a proposed or existing dwelling.

(iii) The accessory dwelling unit is either attached to, or located within, the proposed or existing primary dwelling, including attached garages, storage areas or similar uses, or an accessory structure or detached from the proposed or existing primary dwelling and located on the same lot as the proposed or existing primary dwelling.

(iv) If there is an existing primary dwelling, the total floor area of an attached accessory dwelling unit shall not exceed 50 percent of the existing primary dwelling.

(v) The total floor area for a detached accessory dwelling unit shall not exceed 1,200 square feet.

(vi) No passageway shall be required in conjunction with the construction of an accessory dwelling unit.

(vii) No setback shall be required for an existing living area or accessory structure or a structure constructed in the same location and to the same dimensions as an existing structure that is converted to an accessory dwelling unit or to a portion of an accessory dwelling ~~unit, and a setback of no more than four feet from the side and rear lot lines shall be required for an accessory dwelling unit that is not converted from an existing structure or a new structure constructed in the same location and to the same dimensions as an existing structure.~~ *unit.*

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(viii) (I) Rear and side yard setback requirements for accessory dwelling units shall be established by the local agency, except as otherwise provided in clause (vii) and this clause.

(II) An applicant for an accessory dwelling unit may submit a request to the local agency for an alternative rear and side yard setback requirement based upon specific site topographical conditions if the local agency's setback requirements make the building of the accessory dwelling unit infeasible. The local agency may approve the request upon making a finding that the alternative setback is necessary to make the building of the accessory dwelling unit feasible and the alternative setback requirement adjusts the setback requirement only to the extent necessary to accommodate the accessory dwelling unit.

(III) In no event shall the local agency's rear and side yard setback requirements be greater than those in effect as of January 1, 2020.

(IV) If the local agency did not have an accessory dwelling unit ordinance as of January 1, 2020, the rear and side yard setback requirement shall be four feet.

~~(viii)~~

(ix) Local building code requirements that apply to detached dwellings, as appropriate.

~~(ix)~~

(x) Approval by the local health officer where a private sewage disposal system is being used, if required.

~~(x)~~

(xi) (I) Parking requirements for accessory dwelling units shall not exceed one parking space per accessory dwelling unit or per bedroom, whichever is less. These spaces may be provided as tandem parking on a driveway.

(II) Offstreet parking shall be permitted in setback areas in locations determined by the local agency or through tandem parking, unless specific findings are made that parking in setback areas or tandem parking is not feasible based upon specific site or regional topographical or fire and life safety conditions.

(III) This clause shall not apply to an accessory dwelling unit that is described in subdivision (d).

~~(xi)~~

(xii) When a garage, carport, or covered parking structure is demolished in conjunction with the construction of an accessory

dwelling unit or converted to an accessory dwelling unit, the local agency shall not require that those offstreet parking spaces be replaced.

~~(xii)~~

(xiii) Accessory dwelling units shall not be required to provide fire sprinklers if they are not required for the primary residence.

(2) The ordinance shall not be considered in the application of any local ordinance, policy, or program to limit residential growth.

(3) A permit application for an accessory dwelling unit or a junior accessory dwelling unit shall be considered and approved ministerially without discretionary review or a hearing, notwithstanding Section 65901 or 65906 or any local ordinance regulating the issuance of variances or special use permits. The permitting agency shall act on the application to create an accessory dwelling unit or a junior accessory dwelling unit within 60 days from the date the local agency receives a completed application if there is an existing single-family or multifamily dwelling on the lot. If the permit application to create an accessory dwelling unit or a junior accessory dwelling unit is submitted with a permit application to create a new single-family dwelling on the lot, the permitting agency may delay acting on the permit application for the accessory dwelling unit or the junior accessory dwelling unit until the permitting agency acts on the permit application to create the new single-family dwelling, but the application to create the accessory dwelling unit or junior accessory dwelling unit shall be considered without discretionary review or hearing. If the applicant requests a delay, the 60-day time period shall be tolled for the period of the delay. If the local agency has not acted upon the completed application within 60 days, the application shall be deemed approved. A local agency may charge a fee to reimburse it for costs incurred to implement this paragraph, including the costs of adopting or amending any ordinance that provides for the creation of an accessory dwelling unit.

(4) An existing ordinance governing the creation of an accessory dwelling unit by a local agency or an accessory dwelling ordinance adopted by a local agency shall provide an approval process that includes only ministerial provisions for the approval of accessory dwelling units and shall not include any discretionary processes, provisions, or requirements for those units, except as otherwise provided in this subdivision. If a local agency has an existing

accessory dwelling unit ordinance that fails to meet the requirements of this subdivision, that ordinance shall be null and void and that agency shall thereafter apply the standards established in this subdivision for the approval of accessory dwelling units, unless and until the agency adopts an ordinance that complies with this section.

(5) No other local ordinance, policy, or regulation shall be the basis for the delay or denial of a building permit or a use permit under this subdivision.

(6) (A) This subdivision establishes the maximum standards that local agencies shall use to evaluate a proposed accessory dwelling unit on a lot that includes a proposed or existing single-family dwelling. No additional standards, other than those provided in this subdivision, shall be used or imposed except that, subject to subparagraph (B), a local agency may require an applicant for a permit issued pursuant to this subdivision to be an owner-occupant or that the property be used for rentals of terms longer than 30 days.

(B) Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), a local agency shall not impose an owner-occupant requirement on an accessory dwelling unit permitted between January 1, 2020, to January 1, 2025, during which time the local agency was prohibited from imposing an owner-occupant requirement.

(7) A local agency may amend its zoning ordinance or general plan to incorporate the policies, procedures, or other provisions applicable to the creation of an accessory dwelling unit if these provisions are consistent with the limitations of this subdivision.

(8) An accessory dwelling unit that conforms to this subdivision shall be deemed to be an accessory use or an accessory building and shall not be considered to exceed the allowable density for the lot upon which it is located, and shall be deemed to be a residential use that is consistent with the existing general plan and zoning designations for the lot. The accessory dwelling unit shall not be considered in the application of any local ordinance, policy, or program to limit residential growth.

(b) When a local agency that has not adopted an ordinance governing accessory dwelling units in accordance with subdivision (a) receives an application for a permit to create an accessory dwelling unit pursuant to this subdivision, the local agency shall approve or disapprove the application ministerially without

discretionary review pursuant to subdivision (a). The permitting agency shall act on the application to create an accessory dwelling unit or a junior accessory dwelling unit within 60 days from the date the local agency receives a completed application if there is an existing single-family or multifamily dwelling on the lot. If the permit application to create an accessory dwelling unit or a junior accessory dwelling unit is submitted with a permit application to create a new single-family dwelling on the lot, the permitting agency may delay acting on the permit application for the accessory dwelling unit or the junior accessory dwelling unit until the permitting agency acts on the permit application to create the new single-family dwelling, but the application to create the accessory dwelling unit or junior accessory dwelling unit shall still be considered ministerially without discretionary review or a hearing. If the applicant requests a delay, the 60-day time period shall be tolled for the period of the delay. If the local agency has not acted upon the completed application within 60 days, the application shall be deemed approved.

(c) (1) Subject to paragraph (2), a local agency may establish minimum and maximum unit size requirements for both attached and detached accessory dwelling units.

(2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), a local agency shall not establish by ordinance any of the following:

(A) A minimum square footage requirement for either an attached or detached accessory dwelling unit that prohibits an efficiency unit.

(B) A maximum square footage requirement for either an attached or detached accessory dwelling unit that is less than either of the following:

(i) 850 square feet.

(ii) 1,000 square feet for an accessory dwelling unit that provides more than one bedroom.

(C) Any other minimum or maximum size for an accessory dwelling unit, size based upon a percentage of the proposed or existing primary dwelling, or limits on lot coverage, floor area ratio, open space, and minimum lot size, for either attached or detached dwellings that does not permit at least an 800 square foot accessory dwelling unit that is at least 16 feet in height ~~with four-foot side and rear yard setbacks~~ to be constructed in compliance with all other local development standards.

(d) Notwithstanding any other law, a local agency, whether or not it has adopted an ordinance governing accessory dwelling units in accordance with subdivision (a), shall not impose parking standards for an accessory dwelling unit in any of the following instances:

(1) The accessory dwelling unit is located within one-half mile walking distance of public transit.

(2) The accessory dwelling unit is located within an architecturally and historically significant historic district.

(3) The accessory dwelling unit is part of the proposed or existing primary residence or an accessory structure.

(4) When on-street parking permits are required but not offered to the occupant of the accessory dwelling unit.

(5) When there is a car share vehicle located within one block of the accessory dwelling unit.

(e) (1) Notwithstanding subdivisions (a) to (d), inclusive, a local agency shall ministerially approve an application for a building permit within a residential or mixed-use zone to create any of the following:

(A) One accessory dwelling unit and one junior accessory dwelling unit per lot with a proposed or existing single-family dwelling if all of the following apply:

(i) The accessory dwelling unit or junior accessory dwelling unit is within the proposed space of a single-family dwelling or existing space of a single-family dwelling or accessory structure and may include an expansion of not more than 150 square feet beyond the same physical dimensions as the existing accessory structure. An expansion beyond the physical dimensions of the existing accessory structure shall be limited to accommodating ingress and egress.

(ii) The space has exterior access from the proposed or existing single-family dwelling.

(iii) The side and rear setbacks are sufficient for fire and safety.

(iv) The junior accessory dwelling unit complies with the requirements of Section 65852.22.

(B) One detached, new construction, accessory dwelling unit ~~that does not exceed four-foot side and rear yard setbacks~~ for a lot with a proposed or existing single-family dwelling. The accessory dwelling unit may be combined with a junior accessory dwelling

unit described in subparagraph (A). A local agency may impose the following conditions on the accessory dwelling unit:

(i) A total floor area limitation of not more than 800 square feet.

(ii) A height limitation of 16 feet.

(C) (i) Multiple accessory dwelling units within the portions of existing multifamily dwelling structures that are not used as livable space, including, but not limited to, storage rooms, boiler rooms, passageways, attics, basements, or garages, if each unit complies with state building standards for dwellings.

(ii) A local agency shall allow at least one accessory dwelling unit within an existing multifamily dwelling and shall allow up to 25 percent of the existing multifamily dwelling units.

(D) Not more than two accessory dwelling units that are located on a lot that has an existing multifamily dwelling, but are detached from that multifamily dwelling and are subject to a height limit of 16 ~~feet and four-foot rear yard and side setbacks.~~ *feet.*

(2) A local agency shall not require, as a condition for ministerial approval of a permit application for the creation of an accessory dwelling unit or a junior accessory dwelling unit, the correction of nonconforming zoning conditions.

(3) The installation of fire sprinklers shall not be required in an accessory dwelling unit if sprinklers are not required for the primary residence.

(4) A local agency may require owner occupancy for either the primary dwelling or the accessory dwelling unit on a single-family lot, subject to the requirements of paragraph (6) of subdivision (a).

(5) A local agency shall require that a rental of the accessory dwelling unit created pursuant to this subdivision be for a term longer than 30 days.

(6) A local agency may require, as part of the application for a permit to create an accessory dwelling unit connected to an onsite wastewater treatment system, a percolation test completed within the last five years, or, if the percolation test has been recertified, within the last 10 years.

(7) Notwithstanding subdivision (c) and paragraph (1) a local agency that has adopted an ordinance by July 1, 2018, providing for the approval of accessory dwelling units in multifamily dwelling structures shall ministerially consider a permit application to construct an accessory dwelling unit that is described in paragraph (1), and may impose standards including, but not limited

to, design, development, and historic standards on said accessory dwelling units. These standards shall not include requirements on minimum lot size.

(f) (1) Fees charged for the construction of accessory dwelling units shall be determined in accordance with Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 66000) and Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 66012).

(2) An accessory dwelling unit shall not be considered by a local agency, special district, or water corporation to be a new residential use for purposes of calculating connection fees or capacity charges for utilities, including water and sewer service, unless the accessory dwelling unit was constructed with a new single-family dwelling.

(3) (A) A local agency, special district, or water corporation shall not impose any impact fee upon the development of an accessory dwelling unit less than 750 square feet. Any impact fees charged for an accessory dwelling unit of 750 square feet or more shall be charged proportionately in relation to the square footage of the primary dwelling unit.

(B) For purposes of this paragraph, "impact fee" has the same meaning as the term "fee" is defined in subdivision (b) of Section 66000, except that it also includes fees specified in Section 66477. "Impact fee" does not include any connection fee or capacity charge charged by a local agency, special district, or water corporation.

(4) For an accessory dwelling unit described in subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (e), a local agency, special district, or water corporation shall not require the applicant to install a new or separate utility connection directly between the accessory dwelling unit and the utility or impose a related connection fee or capacity charge, unless the accessory dwelling unit was constructed with a new single-family dwelling.

(5) For an accessory dwelling unit that is not described in subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (e), a local agency, special district, or water corporation may require a new or separate utility connection directly between the accessory dwelling unit and the utility. Consistent with Section 66013, the connection may be subject to a connection fee or capacity charge that shall be proportionate to the burden of the proposed accessory dwelling unit, based upon either its square feet or the number of

its drainage fixture unit (DFU) values, as defined in the Uniform Plumbing Code adopted and published by the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials, upon the water or sewer system. This fee or charge shall not exceed the reasonable cost of providing this service.

(g) This section does not limit the authority of local agencies to adopt less restrictive requirements for the creation of an accessory dwelling unit.

(h) (1) A local agency shall submit a copy of the ordinance adopted pursuant to subdivision (a) to the Department of Housing and Community Development within 60 days after adoption. After adoption of an ordinance, the department may submit written findings to the local agency as to whether the ordinance complies with this section.

(2) (A) If the department finds that the local agency's ordinance does not comply with this section, the department shall notify the local agency and shall provide the local agency with a reasonable time, no longer than 30 days, to respond to the findings before taking any other action authorized by this section.

(B) The local agency shall consider the findings made by the department pursuant to subparagraph (A) and shall do one of the following:

(i) Amend the ordinance to comply with this section.

(ii) Adopt the ordinance without changes. The local agency shall include findings in its resolution adopting the ordinance that explain the reasons the local agency believes that the ordinance complies with this section despite the findings of the department.

(3) (A) If the local agency does not amend its ordinance in response to the department's findings or does not adopt a resolution with findings explaining the reason the ordinance complies with this section and addressing the department's findings, the department shall notify the local agency and may notify the Attorney General that the local agency is in violation of state law.

(B) Before notifying the Attorney General that the local agency is in violation of state law, the department may consider whether a local agency adopted an ordinance in compliance with this section between January 1, 2017, and January 1, 2020.

(i) The department may review, adopt, amend, or repeal guidelines to implement uniform standards or criteria that supplement or clarify the terms, references, and standards set forth

in this section. The guidelines adopted pursuant to this subdivision are not subject to Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2.

(j) As used in this section, the following terms mean:

(1) "Accessory dwelling unit" means an attached or a detached residential dwelling unit that provides complete independent living facilities for one or more persons and is located on a lot with a proposed or existing primary residence. It shall include permanent provisions for living, sleeping, eating, cooking, and sanitation on the same parcel as the single-family or multifamily dwelling is or will be situated. An accessory dwelling unit also includes the following:

(A) An efficiency unit.

(B) A manufactured home, as defined in Section 18007 of the Health and Safety Code.

(2) "Accessory structure" means a structure that is accessory and incidental to a dwelling located on the same lot.

(3) "Efficiency unit" has the same meaning as defined in Section 17958.1 of the Health and Safety Code.

(4) "Living area" means the interior habitable area of a dwelling unit, including basements and attics, but does not include a garage or any accessory structure.

(5) "Local agency" means a city, county, or city and county, whether general law or chartered.

(6) "Nonconforming zoning condition" means a physical improvement on a property that does not conform with current zoning standards.

(7) "Passageway" means a pathway that is unobstructed clear to the sky and extends from a street to one entrance of the accessory dwelling unit.

(8) "Proposed dwelling" means a dwelling that is the subject of a permit application and that meets the requirements for permitting.

(9) "Public transit" means a location, including, but not limited to, a bus stop or train station, where the public may access buses, trains, subways, and other forms of transportation that charge set fares, run on fixed routes, and are available to the public.

(10) "Tandem parking" means that two or more automobiles are parked on a driveway or in any other location on a lot, lined up behind one another.

(k) A local agency shall not issue a certificate of occupancy for an accessory dwelling unit before the local agency issues a certificate of occupancy for the primary dwelling.

(*l*) Nothing in this section shall be construed to supersede or in any way alter or lessen the effect or application of the California Coastal Act of 1976 (Division 20 (commencing with Section 30000) of the Public Resources Code), except that the local government shall not be required to hold public hearings for coastal development permit applications for accessory dwelling units.

(m) A local agency may count an accessory dwelling unit for purposes of identifying adequate sites for housing, as specified in subdivision (a) of Section 65583.1, subject to authorization by the department and compliance with this division.

(n) In enforcing building standards pursuant to Article 1 (commencing with Section 17960) of Chapter 5 of Part 1.5 of Division 13 of the Health and Safety Code for an accessory dwelling unit described in paragraph (1) or (2) below, a local agency, upon request of an owner of an accessory dwelling unit for a delay in enforcement, shall delay enforcement of a building standard, subject to compliance with Section 17980.12 of the Health and Safety Code:

(1) The accessory dwelling unit was built before January 1, 2020.

(2) The accessory dwelling unit was built on or after January 1, 2020, in a local jurisdiction that, at the time the accessory dwelling unit was built, had a noncompliant accessory dwelling unit ordinance, but the ordinance is compliant at the time the request is made.

(o) This section shall become operative on January 1, 2025.

SEC. 3. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because a local agency or school district has the authority to levy service charges, fees, or assessments sufficient to pay for the program or level of service mandated by this act, within the meaning of Section 17556 of the Government Code.

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SB 55 (STERN)
FIRE-SAFE GROWTH

Updated: 4/12/2021

THE PROBLEM

California is in the midst of intersecting economic, housing, and climate crises. As the state works to increase the supply of housing and reduce its climate risks, California's growth strategy must recognize the intersection of development and climate in the key area of fire risk.

SB 55 will put California on the path toward fire-safe growth by prohibiting new residential development in very high fire hazard severity zones (VHFHSZ) unless certain fire resiliency standards can be met. SB 55 also provides a fire-offset density bonus for residential development in low fire-risk areas.

BACKGROUND

Millions of Californians are living in serious fire danger. A McClatchy analysis conducted using CalFire's fire severity maps found about 2.7 million Californians live in VHFHSZs. The climate emergency puts those in fire-prone areas at increased risk as fires will continue to become more frequent and severe.

Making homes more resistant to fires by hardening them in these dangerous areas is important – the McClatchy analysis also found houses built under more protective building codes suffered less damage. Resiliency efforts, from reducing fuel in yards to installing double-paned windows to closing eaves, can save lives and property. For the millions of families who live under the shadow of fire risk today, home hardening is urgent and necessary. However, in certain instances hardening is not enough.

Fire **resistance** does not mean fire **immunity** – and, as researchers have been reiterating for years, "*Where* you build your house, not what it's made of, is the biggest factor in determining whether it will burn." The 2018, 2019, and 2020 wildfire seasons took a toll not only on older homes but also on homes built to the most recent building standards. To protect those homes, the state has spent nearly $10 billion.

As of December, the 2020 wildfire season was even more severe, with CalFire estimating 4,197,628 acres burned in the year compared to a previous 5-year annual average of 878,800 acres. Additionally, an estimated 10,500 structures were damaged or destroyed and 31 lives were lost. To be sensible, California's growth strategy cannot ignore the most important factor in determining fire risk – where houses are built.

THE SOLUTION

SB 55 sets California on a path of fire-safe growth by both prohibiting further residential development in VHFHSZs unless stringent building, hardening, and emergency response mitigation plans are met.

SB 55 is not intended to operate in a vacuum. It will also provide a height bonus of 10 feet and a 20% density bonus for residential developments built outside of the moderate, high, and very high fire hazard severity zones. By incentivizing development outside of the wildland urban interface (WUI), it will encourage transit-oriented, affordable, green and infill housing. Efforts that will not only reduce exorbitant housing costs – they will also help California achieve its climate goals.

This bill will ensure new housing development projects will not inadvertently put more Californians in harm's way.

Contact: Megan Mekelburg at (916) 651-4027 or megan.mekelburg@sen.ca.gov

SUPPORT

Abundant Housing LA
Center for Biological Diversity
California Native Plant Society
Sierra Club California
California Wildlife Foundation
Center California Environmental Justice Network
Defenders of Wildlife
California Chaparral Institute
Federation of Hillside and Canyon Associations, Inc.
California Institute for Biodiversity
Friends of Ballona Wetlands
SoCal 350 Climate Action
Friends of Griffith Park
Social Compassion in Legislation
Friends of Harbors, Beaches & Parks
350 Santa Barbara
Green Foothills
Action for Animals
Greenspace: The Cambria Land Trust
Brentwood Alliance of Canyons & Hillsides
Hills for Everyone
Biodiversity First!
International Fund for Animal Welfare
Citizens for Los Angeles Wildlife
The Urban Wildlands Group
Endangered Habitats League
Los Angeles Audubon Society
Escondido Neighbors United
Los Angeles Waterkeeper
Extinction Rebellion SF Bay
Santa Susana Mountain Park Association
National Wildlife Refuge
Laurel Canyon Land Trust
San Diego Audubon Society
Los Padres ForestWatch
California Native Plant Society, San Diego Chapter
Mountain Lion Foundation
San Pasqual Valley Preservation Alliance
Move LA
Santa Barbara Audubon Society
Ohlone Audubon Society
Santa Susana Mountain Park Association
Palos Verdes/South Bay Audubon
SC Wildlands
Poison Free Agoura
Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society
Poison Free Malibu
Theodore Payne Foundation for Wild Flowers & Native Plants
Preserve Wild Santee
Ventana Wilderness Alliance
Project Coyote
Western Watersheds Project
Raptors Are The Solution
Preserve Our Rural Communities

Contact: Megan Mekelburg at (916) 651-4027 or megan.mekelburg@sen.ca.gov

SB 765 (STERN)
ADU SETBACK

UPDATED: 3/3/21

BACKGROUND

As California works to address the housing crisis, accessory dwelling units (ADUs) have been identified as one way to increase the production of affordable housing. In recent years, the state has incentivized and clarified law to increase the production of ADUs.

An ADU, often referred to as a granny flat or guest home, is a housing unit that may be built on a single-family or multifamily-zoned lot.

Part of the new law includes new rear and side setbacks that apply to every lot in the state, no matter the size. A setback is a development standard intended to serve as the minimum distance the unit must be setback from the end and/or side of the lot. In this case, a side and rear set-back refer to the side and rear of a property line.

THE PROBLEM

Under existing law, ADUs only have to be 4ft feet away from the side and rear property lines. (Gov. Code, § 65852.2) no matter what size the parcel, meaning the setback are currently the same whether a small 3,000 square foot urban lot or a 20 acre lot in rural lots.

As a result, many ADUs can be placed significantly closer to a neighbor's home on an adjacent property than it is to the home on the property where it's located, butting up against a fence line and/or not optimally located in consideration of scale and proper planning.

Prior to this law being enacted in 2021, local governments established their own setbacks, depending on location, environs, often varying from community to community or street to street depending on what was appropriate.

For suburban and rural plots and other jurisdictions with larger lots of land and open space, setbacks were often 25 feet.

THE SOLUTION

SB 765 gives local governments the option to return to any setback regulations they had established prior to the state law mandating the 4-foot setback that took effect in 2021. For local jurisdictions that did not have a setback regulation in place, they will be bound by the 4-foot setback rule in current state law.

By making this change, local jurisdictions will restore their authority to do proper planning to achieve an optimal, safe, and aesthetically balanced ADU location. Under SB 765, if a local jurisdiction's setback requirements make the building of an AUD infeasible, the applicant can submit a request for an alternate setback requirement.

SUPPORT

Contact: Megan Mekelburg at (916) 651-4027 or megan.mekelburg@sen.ca.gov

City of Malibu

Mikke Pierson, Mayor

23825 Stuart Ranch Road · Malibu, California · 90265-4861

Phone (310) 456-2489 · Fax (310) 456-3356 · www.malibucity.org

April 13, 2021 *Submitted via the CA Legislature Position Letter Portal*

The Honorable Senator Scott Wiener, Chair
Senate Housing Committee
State Capitol Building, Room 2209
Sacramento CA 95814

The Honorable Senator Mike McGuire, Chair
Senate Governance and Finance Committee
State Capitol Building, Room 5061
Sacramento CA 95814

RE: Senate Bill (SB) 55 – Development Prohibition in Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone and State Responsibility Area (Stern/Allen) – SUPPORT

Dear Senators Wiener and McGuire:

At its Regular meeting on April 12, 2021, the Malibu City Council voted to support SB 55, which would restrict development in areas of California most threatened by the possibility of wildfires.

Following the historically destructive fire seasons of 2018-2020, the State recognized it must develop a growth strategy that recognizes the joint effects of economic, housing, and climate crises while addressing the key area of fire risk. Existing law requires the Director of Forestry and Fire Protection to identify areas of the state as very high fire hazard severity zones (VHFHSZ) based on specified criteria. All of Malibu has been identified as being within a VHFHSZ, and a recent study found that approximately 2.7 million Californians live in a VHFHSZ. Resiliency efforts, such as home hardening and defensible space requirements, are critical defenses but may not be enough to protect communities within a VHFHSZ. SB 55 looks to address that shortfall by prohibiting new residential, commercial and industrial development in a VHFHSZ.

The City is also aware of proposed amendments to SB 55 that would:

- Provide a general exemption to the development prohibition of a local jurisdiction that meets stringent fire safety standards
- Clarify the definition of a "new development" to explicitly allow for rebuilds and any 1:1 construction for existing dwelling units
- Allow any essential infrastructure maintenance
- Allow for construction of a new facility or infrastructure if it is intended for fire prevention or response

The City of Malibu fully supports any amendment to SB 55 that would allow for property owners in Malibu and other communities devastated by recent wildfires to rebuild their homes and their lives.

For these reasons, the City of Malibu strongly supports SB 55 and respectfully requests that the Senate Housing Committee and Governance and Finance Committee vote in support of SB 55.

Sincerely,

Mikke Pierson
Mayor

Cc: Honorable Members of the Malibu City Council
Honorable Henry Stern, California State Senate, 27th District
Honorable Senator Ben Allen, California State Senate, 26th District
Honorable Richard Bloom, California State Assembly, 50th District
Honorable Members of the Senate Housing Committee
Honorable Members of the Senate Governance and Finance Committee

City of Malibu

Mikke Pierson, Mayor

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Senate Housing Committee
State Capitol Building, Room 2209
Sacramento CA 95814

The Honorable Senator Mike McGuire, Chair
Senate Governance and Finance Committee
State Capitol Building, Room 5061
Sacramento CA 95814

RE: Senate Bill (SB) 765 – Accessory Dwelling Unit Setback (Stern) – SUPPORT

Dear Senators Wiener and McGuire:

At its Regular meeting on April 12, 2021, the Malibu City Council voted to support SB 765, which continues to provide for and protect the production of accessory dwelling units (ADUs), while allowing cities to maintain a setback for ADUs that is appropriate to their lot size and terrain.

First and foremost, SB 765 will neither undermine existing law nor hinder the construction of ADUs, which the City of Malibu supports as one of many very important solutions to the current housing crisis. Rather, SB 765 provides that rear and side yard setbacks for ADUs previously established by local agencies be maintained in appropriate circumstances, so that each community can take into account its own built environment, unique topography and landscape, and the differences of lot size among urban, suburban, and rural zones and terrain.

In fact, to ensure that the bill does not diminish opportunities for ADU construction, SB 765 has built-in safeguards to ensure that the goals of housing production are maintained. Nothing else will change regarding the ministerial approval of ADUs.

SB 765 is necessary because, without this fix, ADUs that may otherwise be considered, may not be built. The standardized setback of four (4) feet, however well-intended, has unintended consequences in that an ADU would have to be placed in a location that is not optimal in terms of scale and proper planning. The statewide standardization does not take into consideration the wide variation in parcel sizes that can range anywhere from a small, 5,000-square foot parcel to a parcel of 20 acres or more in a rural zone. In each case, an ADU would be required to be situated against a fence line and significantly closer to a neighbor's home on an adjacent property than to the home on the property where it is located.

SB 765 honors one of the great strengths of California – the diversity of communities – and respects a community's varying parcels and terrain. When one considers the variation of parcels in the state, it is unreasonable that every lot in California must have the same setback in order to facilitate the production of ADUs.

For these reasons, the City of Malibu strongly supports SB 765 and respectfully requests that the Senate Housing Committee and Governance and Finance Committee vote in support of SB 765. Approval of this legislation acknowledges consideration of the value in proper planning and site specifics, as well as the importance of balance in housing legislation.

Sincerely,

Mikke Pierson
Mayor

Cc: Honorable Members of the Malibu City Council
Honorable Henry Stern, California State Senate, 27th District
Honorable Assembly Member Laura Friedman, California State Assembly, 43rd District
Honorable Richard Bloom, California State Assembly, 50th District
Honorable Members of the Senate Housing Committee
Honorable Members of the Senate Governance and Finance Committee

AGN. NO.

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR JANICE HAHN March 9, 2021

5-Signature Letter to Support AFSCME 1902 Workers

An LA Times investigation last month revealed a workplace culture at the Metropolitan Water District (MWD) of Southern California plagued with rampant sexual harassment, bullying, discrimination, and retaliation, particularly for women and LGBTQIA+ people. These essential workers build and manage the water infrastructure the County relies on, often in remote locations away from their families.

The review initiated by the MWD Board is a good first step to investigate the claims of sexual harassment, but a full, comprehensive investigation into all alleged incidents of abuse at the MWD is necessary to not only achieve justice for those abused, but to change the culture and ensure incidents of misconduct are taken seriously.

All allegations of sexual harassment filed by female and LGBTQIA+ employees of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California should be fully investigated, through a neutral, independent third-party investigative process, which should not be impeded by arbitrary timelines or restrictive funding.

	MOTION
MITCHELL	_____
KUEHL	_____
HAHN	_____
BARGER	_____
SOLIS	_____

In order to create the institutional change necessary to ensure the MWD's workplace is free from harassment, discrimination, bullying and retaliation, the State needs to conduct a comprehensive investigation into the alleged abuses, and the related human resources practices.

I, THEREFORE MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct the Chief Executive Officer to send a five-signature letter to Assemblymember Rudy Salas Jr., Chair, and Senator John Laird, Vice Chair, of the California State Assembly Joint Legislative Audit Committee, with a copy to the Committee members to request a State Audit in order to have a comprehensive investigation into the allegations and concerns regarding the workplace culture surrounding the women and LGBTQIA+ employees who work in Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

# # #

JH: nh

RESOLUTION RULES, ELECTIONS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state, or federal government body or agency must have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, Metropolitan Water District (MWD) is a public corporation created for the purpose of developing, storing, and distributing water throughout the Southern California region; and

WHEREAS, the MWD consists of 26 member agencies and provides drinking water to nearly 18 million people in its service area; and

WHEREAS, recent disturbing reports state that a number of current and former MWD employees have come forward exposing a pattern of sexual harassment, bullying and retaliation of women who participated in an apprentice program at the MWD; and

WHEREAS, the women who participated in the apprentice program stated that their complaints of harassment were ignored by MWD officials and some women were pressured to continue working around their abusers; one woman was transferred to work at a facility more than 100 miles from her home and family; and

WHEREAS, on October 27, 2020 an independent investigation was initiated by the MWD to review this matter, but there is concern that the investigation will be rushed and inadequate in addressing the problem; and

WHEREAS, in order to create the institutional change necessary to ensure the MWD's workplace is free from harassment, discrimination, bullying and retaliation, the State needs to conduct a comprehensive investigation into the alleged abuses, and the related human resources practices; and

WHEREAS, by conducting these activities a measure of workplace safety and justice may be ensured for the women and LGBTQ+ community working at the MWD;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles includes in its 2021-2022 State Legislative Program, sponsorship and support of any legislative effort by the Senate and Assembly Joint Legislative Audit Committee to conduct a comprehensive investigation and audit of the personnel policies and practices of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) to increase transparency and provide oversight of workplace health and safety; and the prevention of workplace discrimination, harassment, bullying and retaliation in light of recent reports concerning the treatment of women at the MWD.

PRESENTED BY:

PAUL KORETZ
Councilmember, 5th District

NURY MARTINEZ
Councilwoman, 6th District

SECONDED BY:

MITCH O'FARRELL
Councilmember, 13th District

MAR 0 3 2021

ATTACHMENT 9

DRAFT supplement for 4/21 LVMCOG meeting agenda item 6.B.

To date, the following CA lawmakers and others have joined Metropolitan Water District workers in calling for a state audit into the MWD:

- State Senator Ben Allen
- State Senator Bob Archuleta
- State Senator Maria Elena Durazo
- State Senator Connie Leyva
- State Senator Dave Min
- State Senator Josh Newman
- State Senator Nancy Skinner
- State Senator Tom Umberg
- Assemblymember Autumn Burke
- Assemblymember Lisa Calderon
- Assemblymember Wendy Carrillo
- Assistant Speaker Pro Tem Laura Friedman
- Assemblymember Jesse Gabriel
- Assemblymember Mike Gipson
- Assemblymember Eloise Gómez Reyes
- Assemblymember Lorena Gonzalez
- Assemblymember Chris Holden
- Assemblymember Reggie Jones-Sawyer
- Assemblymember Al Muratsuchi
- Assemblymember Luz Rivas
- Assemblymember Blanca Rubio
- Assemblymember Miguel Santiago
- LA County Board of Supervisors
- LA City Council
- LA County Democratic Party
- LA County Federation of Labor
- Inland Empire Labor Council
- Orange County Labor Federation
- International Union of Painters Allied Trades District Council 36
- National Association of Women in Construction LA
- CA Legislative Women's Caucus
- Fund Her
- CA Chapter of National Organization for Women:
    - "The horrifying allegations are unacceptable and quite frankly, criminal."