



**SAN
FRANCISCO
CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE**

File No. 160660

June 6, 2016

The Honorable London Breed, President
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Room 244
San Francisco, CA 94102

RE: "By Right Housing Approvals" State Budget Trailer Legislation
Opposing Resolution File No. 160660, in Opposition to the State Legislation

Dear President Breed and Members of the Board of Supervisors:

The San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, representing over 2,500 local businesses, urges the Board of Supervisors to oppose, or refer to committee, the resolution contained in File No. 160660, opposing Governor Brown's legislation to streamline affordable housing approvals, on Tuesday's immediate adoption calendar.

While, San Francisco leads the region in the development of affordable housing, our approval process leaves much to be desired, with a process which contributes to chronic delay, high costs and under-supply. The Governor's legislation will cut through much of the red-tape, which is just as prevalent in San Francisco as it is in the suburbs, red-tape that delays construction of needed in-fill housing construction.

The Governor's proposal will not circumvent local zoning. What it will do in San Francisco is make zoning matter, allowing more certainty for those who develop work force and lower income housing.

San Francisco was downzoned over 40 years ago. This legislation will not change that zoning – it will only expedite development of housing that meets that lower density zoning, bringing more supply on line in the city and throughout the state.

Sincerely,

Jim Lazarus
Senior Vice President of Public Policy

cc: Mayor Ed Lee, Clerk of the Board to be distributed to all members of the Board of Supervisors