San Diego Regional Chamber

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April 21, 2015

The Honorable David Chiu
California State Assembly
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 94249

**RE: Support for AB 35**

Dear Assemblymember Chiu:

On behalf of the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce (Chamber), I am writing to express the Chamber's support for your Assembly Bill 35 (AB 35), which would expand the state's low-income housing tax credit program and dedicate state funds for much needed affordable housing.

With more than 3,000 members representing 400,000 employees, the Chamber is the largest nonprofit advocate for regional businesses and is dedicated to growing commerce in the San Diego region. We consider business and job creation a top priority, and support measures that shore up the housing supply that is necessary for sustainability.

Following significant cuts of over 80% in state funding for low-income housing compounded by the loss of redevelopment agencies, we have struggled to meet the demand for housing for our low-income residents. AB 35 that will address the state's pending affordability crisis by leveraging federal funds and removing the financial uncertainty presently plaguing the affordable housing developers.

In the San Diego region, we have acutely felt the pressure of a lack of affordable housing for our residents. The chamber has been an active partner in various efforts to address this issue, however we welcome this leadership at the state level and are hopeful that AB 35 will be a significant policy tool.

The Chamber looks forward to working with you to ensure the success of AB 35. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Chanelle Hawken, Vice President of Public Policy, at (619) 544-1365 or chawken@sdchamber.org.

Sincerely,

Jerry Sanders
President & CEO
San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce

Cc: Honorable Toni Atkins