April 3, 2018

The Honorable David Chiu, Chair
Assembly Housing and Community Development Committee
State Capitol, Room 4112
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Assembly Bill 3147 – Mitigation Fee Act - SUPPORT

Dear Assemblymember Chiu,

The organizations listed below support AB 3147 regarding the Mitigation Fee Act. This bill, which would restrict cities and counties from being able to impose or add new requirements, fees, charges, or other exactions to applicants for housing projects once an application is deemed complete by the jurisdiction, will have a beneficial impact on the cost of housing by providing certainty with regard to fees. California's sky-high housing prices are impacting the lives of every Californian. AB 3147 will help ensure that there is cost certainty around the production of low-income, workforce, and moderate income housing across the state.

AB 3147 will help spur housing production by making the fee process more transparent and possibly reducing extraneous fees assessed on a housing project. This would provide home builders certainty, at least with regard to the fees assessed on a project. In turn, it will potentially reduce costs by prohibiting local governments from tacking on additional fees, charges, etc. late in the process as a condition of approval. The doubt and lack of transparency furthers escalating home prices. A recent study from the UC Berkeley Terner Center for Housing Innovation identifies the lack of transparency and the imposition of fees late in the approval process as having serious consequences for housing development.

We respectfully request your support AB 3147, a measure that seeks to provide some modest relief to the state's escalating housing prices, and one that will move California one step closer to solving the housing crisis and make housing more accessible for all Californians.

Sincerely,

California Building Industry Association
California Business Properties Association
National Federation of Independent Business
California Chamber of Commerce
California Association of REALTORS
California Housing Consortium
California YIMBY
Bay Area Council
California Apartment Association

CC: The Honorable Assemblymember Caballero, Author
Members, Assembly Housing and Community Development Committee
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