



March 31, 2021

The Honorable Janet Nguyen
California State Assembly, 72nd District
State Capitol, Room 4153
Sacramento, CA 94249

RE: SUPPORT: AB 1258 – Housing element: regional housing need plan: judicial review

Dear Assembly Member Nguyen,

The Association of California Cities – Orange County (ACC-OC) represents the regional policy needs of most Orange County cities and special districts. Collectively, our members provide services to up to 3.2 million people and work across county borders on a multitude of public policy issues.

ACC-OC is pleased to offer its support for Assembly Bill 1258. Every eight years, the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) conducts a Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA), mandating that local jurisdictions plan and zone for a pre-determined number of housing units. Once that pre-determined number is approved by local planning agencies, cities have no recourse in debating their validity. Currently, cities and councils of government are unable to seek judicial review of HCD's determination of existing and projected need for housing or the regional council of governments' methodology to allocate the HCD's housing need determination. If erroneous data or assumptions were relied on by HCD or a council of governments, cities have no legal recourse and could be unable to meet their housing allocations. AB 1258 will give cities the ability to request judicial review and seek the expertise and impartiality of the courts.

Should you have any questions about our position or about ACC-OC, please contact Jenn Lowe, ACC-OC Director of Legislative and External Affairs, at (714) 953-1300 or at jlowe@accoc.org.



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which reads "Bruce E. Channing". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent loop at the end of the last name.

Bruce Channing
Executive Director
Association of California Cities – Orange County

CC: ACC-OC Board of Directors