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TRANSFORM
TENANTS TOGETHER California's Statewide Organization for Renters' Rights www.tenantstogether.org

July 28, 2026

The Honorable Monique Limón
President pro Tempore, California Senate
1021 O Street, Suite 8518
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable John Laird
Chair, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee
1021 O Street, Suite 8720
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Melissa Hurtado
Chair, Budget Sub #4
1021 O Street, Suite 6510
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Robert Rivas
Speaker, California State Assembly
1021 O Street, Suite 8330
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Jesse Gabriel
Chair, Assembly Budget Committee
1021 O Street, Suite 8230
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Sharon Quirk-Silva
Chair, Budget Sub #5
1021 O Street, Suite 4210
Sacramento, CA 958

RE: FY 2026-27 Budget Request – Sustaining California's Regional Housing Finance Agencies

Dear President pro Tempore Limón, Speaker Rivas, and Chairs Laird, Gabriel, Hurtado, and Quirk-Silva:

We write in strong support of the joint $32 million one-time budget request from California's three regional housing finance authorities (RHFAs). This modest investment would sustain innovative, regionally driven approaches to the state's most pressing housing challenges. As State revenues continue to come in above

projections, we are writing again to urge you to include this funding in the FY 2026-27 budget.

California's three RHFAs – the Bay Area Housing Finance Authority (BAHFA), the Los Angeles County Affordable Housing Solutions Agency (LACAHSA), and the San Diego Regional Housing Finance Agency (SD-RHFA) – collectively serve 48 percent of Californians. Each was authorized by state law and formed within the last six years to advance ambitious state and local housing goals. Despite limited resources, all three agencies have quickly demonstrated their value by launching programs tailored to the distinct needs of their regions while advancing shared statewide priorities.

RHFAs fill a unique niche in California's housing landscape: close enough to communities to identify local needs and design programs accordingly, yet operating at a regional scale that drives meaningful, coordinated impact across jurisdictional lines. They serve as effective bridges between the state and local governments – translating state priorities into on-the-ground results through the lens of regional needs. No other entities in California's housing ecosystem play this role.

Each agency is charting a path toward long-term financial sustainability through revenue-generating programs and regional funding strategies. One-time state support at this critical juncture will sustain the agencies' most promising work while they build the capacity and revenue streams needed for self-sufficiency. The return on this investment is already evident: in just a few years, the three RHFAs have collectively launched dozens of initiatives spanning affordable housing finance, housing navigation tools, tenant protections, and planning for major regional revenue measures.

We cannot afford to lose the momentum these agencies have built or the powerful revenue-raising potential they represent. California needs BAHFA, LACAHSA, and SD-RHFA as robust partners to meet our shared housing goals. We urge you to fund the full $32 million request in the FY 2026-27 budget.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

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CTY Housing, Inc.

Ali Gaylord
Senior Vice President of Development, NorCal
Affirmed Housing

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Director
BAFTEH (Bay Area Funders Together to End Homelessness)

Natalie Bonnewit
Principal
Bonnewit Development Services

Rev Paige Eaves
Clergy Assistant to Bishop Dottie Escobedo-Frank
California-Pacific Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church

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Founder & Senior Consultant
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cc: [Members of the Bay Area Caucus, Los Angeles County Delegation, San Diego County Delegation]