



## CITY OF MURRIETA

August 1, 2023

The Honorable Assemblymember Sanchez  
Member, California State Assembly  
P.O. Box 942849  
Sacramento, CA 94249-0071

**Re: SB 423 (Wiener) By-right housing approvals: multifamily housing developments: SB 35  
(Chapter 366, Statutes of 2017) expansion.  
Notice of Opposition**

Dear Senator Assemblymember Sanchez:

The City of Murrieta writes to express our opposition to SB 423, which would greatly expand SB 35 (Chapter 366, Statutes of 2017), extend the Jan. 1, 2026 sunset date to Jan.1, 2036, and allow the Department of General Services (DGS) to control housing developments on state-owned or -leased property, regardless of the locally required zoning or development standards.

Murrieta intimately understands the affordable housing and homelessness crisis as it plays out in our community every day. Local leaders are working to find creative solutions so homes of all income levels can be built. They're taking on these difficult and complex tasks, and in many cases successfully planning for more than 2.5 million new homes statewide, all while navigating the state's annual barrage of overreaching housing bills that have thus far demonstrated limited success.

SB 423 is the latest overreaching bill. This measure would double-down on the recent trend of the state overriding its own mandated local housing plans by forcing cities to approve certain housing projects without regard to the needs of the community, opportunities for environmental review, or public input. While it may be frustrating for some developers to address neighborhood concerns about traffic, parking, and other development impacts, those directly affected by such projects have a right to be heard. Public engagement also often leads to better projects. Not having such outlets will increase public distrust in government and result in additional ballot measures limiting housing development.

Instead of continuing to pursue top-down, one-size-fits-all legislation, lawmakers should partner with local officials. That's why the League of California Cities continues to call on the Governor and lawmakers to annually invest \$3 billion to help cities prevent and reduce homelessness and spur housing development. Targeted, ongoing funding is the only way cities can find community-based solutions that get our residents off the streets and keep them in their homes. California will never produce the number of homes

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needed with an increasingly state driven, by-right housing approval process. What is really needed is a sustainable state investment that matches the scale of this long-term crisis.

For these reasons, The City of Murrieta respectfully opposes SB 423,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "L. DeForest", with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Lisa DeForest

Mayor

Cc: League of California Cities (Via email:[cityletters@calcities.org](mailto:cityletters@calcities.org))