



CITY OF MURRIETA

April 25, 2023

The Honorable Anna Caballero
Chair, Senate Committee on Governance and Finance
State Capitol, Room 407
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: **SB 423 (Wiener) Streamlined housing approvals: multifamily housing developments: SB 35 (Chapter 366, Statutes of 2017) Expansion.**
Notice of Opposition

Dear Senator Caballero:

The **City of Murrieta writes to express our opposition to SB 423**, which would greatly expand SB 35 (Chapter 366, Statutes of 2017) provisions and eliminate the Jan. 1, 2026, sunset date.

The City of Murrieta intimately understands the California housing crisis and is working to add housing options for current and future residents. Local leaders are working to find creative solutions so homes for residents 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.

In Murrieta, we have 11,500 new residential units in the development pipeline. Of those, more than 70% are multi-family units. This includes 1,300 units currently under construction. The City of Murrieta is working hard to supply housing for residents of California. But local officials know the needs of our specific community and feel strongly that using 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 is not the solution. 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 the government and result in additional ballot measures limiting housing development.

Instead of continuing to pursue top-down, one-size-fits-all legislation, we recommend partnering with local officials to understand the barriers to building more housing and finding solutions tailored to local communities. California will never produce the number of homes needed with an increasingly State-driven, by-right housing approval process.

For these reasons, among others, **the City of Murrieta respectfully opposes SB 423.**

Letter of Support for SB 423 (Wiener)

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lisa DeForest". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lisa DeForest

Mayor

cc: Members of the Murrieta City Council
Senator Kelly Seyarto
Assembly Member Kate Sanchez
Erin Sasse, League of California Cities
League of California Cities