

April 2, 2026

The Honorable Christopher Cabaldon  
California State Senate  
1021 O Street, Room 7320  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: SB 417 (Calderon) Support if Amended**

Dear Senator Cabaldon,

On behalf of the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce, the largest business organization in the Los Angeles region, we write in support of the **amendment** to include dedicated funding for student housing at California's public colleges and universities to SB 417, the Affordable Housing Bond Act of 2026. While we recognize SB 417 is a critical piece of legislation to address our state's housing crisis, we respectfully urge you to include public higher education institutions.

The state's housing crisis affects all our community members including our residents, businesses, employers, and students alike. Students in the UC system are unable to access affordable housing options, leading to an increase in competition for scarce units in surrounding neighborhoods. This drives up costs and strains our local housing market. Students, the workforce of the future, need access to affordable housing, which would allow UC and CSU to drive economic growth in our region and state.

This is an opportunity to create affordable housing for students while freeing units in our communities. These projects also support local economies by generating jobs and reducing commuter traffic and emissions.

Including public higher education in the bond would give campuses, such as UCLA and CSU LA, the tools to meet their housing obligations and signal collective dedication to addressing our housing crisis and supporting economic competitiveness.

We respectfully urge you to include student housing in the final bond proposal. If you have any questions or wish to discuss this matter further, please contact Elissa Diaz, Director of Public Policy, at [ediaz@lachamber.com](mailto:ediaz@lachamber.com).

Sincerely,



Carlos A. Singer  
Chief Policy Officer