



April 14, 2026

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

RE: SB 417, The Affordable Housing Bond Act of 2026 – Support if Amended

Dear Senator Cabaldon:

On behalf of UCLA undergraduate students, The Undergraduate Student Association Council of the University of California, Los Angeles writes to express our appreciation for your leadership in confronting California's housing crisis. **We recognize SB 417, the Affordable Housing Bond Act of 2026, as a vital step forward. However, we respectfully urge that this measure be amended to include public higher education institutions—particularly the University of California and California State University systems—as eligible recipients of bond funding for housing.**

Now more than ever, students across the UC system face an affordability crisis. As the cost of living rises, the burden on students to afford rent and other housing costs has placed increasing difficulties on students' ability to access and succeed in our higher education institutions. As UCLA students, we see the effect acutely: many of our peers sleep in their cars and commute hours to campus because they are unable to afford the unbearably high cost of housing.

California's economic future is dependent on the ability for UC and CSU to drive economic mobility — this means that students must be provided with affordable and fair housing options. Excluding higher education from the housing bond framework would be a missed opportunity at a time when California cannot afford to overlook all housing solutions. University campuses are adept at quickly building affordable housing for students, which can relieve both strain on local residents and communities, as well as students who are looking for an alternative to long commutes or high rent prices.

If amended to include dedicated funding for student housing at public colleges and universities, it would send a clear message that California values its students as part of the solution to the housing crisis and our shared economic prosperity. We welcome the opportunity to work with you to ensure California's housing solutions include our students.

Sincerely,

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The Undergraduate Students Association Council of the University of California, Los Angeles

For more information, please contact: evp@usac.ucla.edu and president@usac.ucla.edu.