



KATY YAROSLAVSKY

COUNCILWOMAN, FIFTH DISTRICT

December 17, 2025

The Honorable Buffy Wicks
1021 O Street, Room 8140
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support for AB 736 (Wicks) if Amended

Dear Assemblymember Wicks:

I write in support of the proposed Affordable Housing Bond of 2026 if amended to include dedicated funding for student housing at California's public colleges and universities.

As the Los Angeles City Councilwoman representing UCLA, I see firsthand how housing shortages affect not only our students but also our residents, businesses, and employers. When students are unable to access affordable housing on or near campus, they compete for scarce rental units in our neighborhoods. This drives up costs and strains the local housing market.

An amendment to invest \$1 billion in dedicated student housing is a practical and proven way to alleviate this pressure. Public universities have the land, infrastructure, and expertise to build quickly and efficiently, creating deeply affordable housing for students while freeing up units in our community for working families.

The University of California (UC), for example, has shown it can deliver results. Under the Higher Education Student Housing Grant Program, UC leveraged \$600 million in state investment into \$1.9 billion in total project value, adding more than 5,000 new student beds, including 3,000 deeply affordable units.

I respectfully urge you to ensure that student housing is part of the final bond proposal. Together, we can comprehensively address California's housing crisis.

Sincerely,

KATY YAROSLAVSKY
Councilwoman, Fifth District