



County of Yolo

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LUCAS FRERICHS Supervisor, Second District

September 8, 2025

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

Subject: AB 736 (Wicks), as amended on April 10, 2025, Pending Referral in the California State Senate,
Position: Support if Amended

Dear Assemblymember Wicks:

I am writing in my capacity as Yolo County Supervisor for District 2 to express my 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.

Through my role as a Yolo County Supervisor, I work to ensure our communities are healthy and thriving. My district includes the campus of the University of California at Davis (UC Davis), and I see firsthand how the statewide housing shortage affects not only students but also our local 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, strains our local housing market, and creates tension between students and long-term residents.

Investing 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. These projects also support local economies by generating good-paying construction jobs and reducing commuter traffic and emissions.

The University of California, 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. CSU campuses are similarly prepared to move forward on shovel-ready projects that address critical local needs.

Amending the bond to dedicate \$1 billion to student housing at UC, CSU, and California Community Colleges would strengthen its overall impact and align with the Legislature's goals of expanding housing access, improving affordability, and supporting California's future workforce.

We share responsibility for housing our residents and advancing solutions that balance student growth with community stability. Including public higher education in the bond would give our campuses the tools to

meet their housing obligations while easing demand in surrounding neighborhoods – a win for students, local residents, and the state’s housing goals alike.

I respectfully urge you to ensure that student housing is part of the final bond proposal. Together, we can address California’s housing crisis comprehensively and equitably. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this request.

With appreciation,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Lucas Frerichs".

Lucas Frerichs
Yolo County Supervisor
District 2