

RYAN RONCO
COUNTY CLERK-RECORDER-REGISTRAR OF VOTERS
LISA CRAMER
ASSISTANT COUNTY CLERK



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PLACER COUNTY CLERK-RECORDER-ELECTIONS

February 22, 2017

The Honorable Jim Beall, Chair
Senate Transportation and Housing Committee
State Capitol Room 2209
Sacramento CA 95814

Re: Opposition to SB 2 – Building Homes and Jobs Act

Dear Senator Beall and Honorable Committee Members:

As the Placer County Clerk-Recorder-Registrar of Voters, I am writing to advise you of my opposition to Senate Bill 2.

SB 2 would impose a \$75.00 tax on certain locally-recorded documents to help fund state-administered affordable housing programs. While affordable housing is critically needed across the state and within Placer County, SB 2 unfairly places this burden on homeowners going through foreclosure, Californians who are already struggling to pay their taxes and on miners who are required to file annual proof of labor forms in order to keep their claims.

The statutory maximum base recording fee in California is \$10.00. By imposing an additional \$75.00 on a subset of recordable documents, this will result in a 750% tax increase on certain customers of the Placer County Recorder's office. Imposing a significant tax on unsuspecting Californians is not the answer to this delicate problem.

Furthermore, funding for low-income and affordable housing programs has historically been distributed to compact urbanized areas. SB 2 has no provision to guarantee that the funds collected in Placer County would stay in Placer County.

SB 2 is an unduly burdensome tax that would require Placer County residents to fund projects outside of our jurisdiction. For these reasons, I must oppose SB 2 unless or until these concerns are addressed.

Thank you for your consideration.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ryan Ronco".

Ryan Ronco
Placer County Clerk-Recorder-Registrar of Voters

Copy: Placer County Board of Supervisors
Senator Ted Gaines
Senator Jim Nielsen