

March 15, 2019

The Honorable Assemblymember Phil Ting
California State Assembly
State Capitol
P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249
Sent Via Email: Tara.Gamboa-Eastman@asm.ca.gov

RE: Assembly Bill 68 (Ting) – Accessory Dwelling Units - Streamlining

Dear Assemblymember Ting,

We support a package of bills that address protection, preservation and production of all levels of housing. Thus we specifically support AB 68, which will help address California's housing crisis by easing barriers to the construction of accessory dwelling units (ADUs).

SPUR (San Francisco Bay Area Planning and Urban Research Association) is a member-supported nonprofit organization that promotes good planning and good government. We bring people together from across the political spectrum to develop solutions to the big problems our cities face. With offices in San Francisco, San Jose and Oakland, we are recognized as a leading civic planning organization and are respected for our independent and holistic approach to urban issues.

SPUR has a long history of advocating for more ADUs in San Francisco and across the Bay Area, starting with our *Secondary Units* paper in 2001. ADUs are a key component of a thoughtful and wide-reaching approach to addressing the housing crisis that reflects the critical importance of protecting people in their homes, preserving existing affordable homes, and producing new homes at all levels of affordability.

ADUs can cost less to both build and rent, making them an affordable and ecofriendly source of new housing. Small housing forms have long been recognized as the most carbon-neutral way to build and live. ADUs utilize existing space on lots and preserve the character and diversity of existing neighborhoods by offering a range of housing types that fit seamlessly into existing communities of many types. ADUs are the only housing form that exists today in California that can be permitted and built in under a year.

Recent state efforts to incentivize the construction of ADUs have resulted in more communities and families building ADUs as a cost efficient way to address the affordable housing crisis. By further reducing barriers to ADU approval and construction, this legislation will help add tens of thousands of new units to California's housing stock. For these reasons and more, SPUR is proud to support AB 68.

Sincerely,


Alicia John-Baptiste
President & CEO