



City of  
**SANTA CLARITA**

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May 24, 2021

Bill Miranda  
Mayor

The Honorable Jesse Gabriel  
California State Assembly, District 45  
State Capitol Building, Room 4117  
Sacramento, CA 94249

Laurene Weste  
Mayor Pro Tem

SUBJECT: AB 989 (GABRIEL): OPPOSE

Dear Assembly Member Gabriel:

Jason Gibbs  
Councilmember

On behalf of the Santa Clarita City Council, I am writing to respectfully express our opposition to Assembly Bill 989, related to establishing the Housing Accountability Committee. The Santa Clarita City Council voted unanimously to oppose this measure at the regular meeting on April 27, 2021.

Marsha McLean  
Councilmember

The City has experienced a significant amount of growth in the last 30 years, more than doubling in population to approximately 225,512 residents. With such rapid growth, the City has worked diligently to ensure that residential development planning and standards recognize the unique community needs, topography, and geography of Santa Clarita.

Cameron Smyth  
Councilmember

The City recognizes the importance of land use planning and housing feasibility to meet the growth and needs of a community. While we appreciate your goal to ensure state housing law compliance and affordability, Assembly Bill 989 significantly preempts local land use authority.

Specifically, the bill's establishment of a Housing Accountability Committee preempts the Housing Accountability Act and allows a single hearing officer to unilaterally overturn conditions or denial of a project, without any public review or comment.

Furthermore, the City has the tools, knowledge, and policies in place to continue to plan and develop innovative residential units that enhance the quality of life for our community. It is critical for the City to maintain



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local land use and zoning authority and ensure that the City continues to have the ability to consider unique factors and community characteristics when reviewing residential development proposals.

For these reasons, the City of Santa Clarita respectfully opposes Assembly Bill 989. We look forward to working with you to address our concerns. Should you or your staff require any further information regarding our position on this bill, please feel free to contact Intergovernmental Relations Analyst Masis Hagobian at (661) 286-4057 or [mhagobian@santa-clarita.com](mailto:mhagobian@santa-clarita.com).

Sincerely,



William A. Miranda

Mayor

BM:MH

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cc: Members of the City Council  
Senator Scott Wilk  
Senator Henry Stern  
Assemblywoman Suzette Valladares  
Assembly Member Tom Lackey  
Kenneth W. Striplin, City Manager  
Frank Oviedo, Assistant City Manager  
Leadership Team  
Masis Hagobian, Intergovernmental Relations Analyst  
Jennifer Quan, League of California Cities  
California Contract Cities Association  
Joe A. Gonsalves & Son