

March 6, 2023

Honorable Members of the House of Representatives,

We respectfully request that you pass the Affordable Homes Act (**HB 1628**), making a significant investment to expand the availability of affordable housing in our cities. The demand for secure and affordable housing is severe across the state, particularly for low and moderate-income households. With more and more families struggling to find affordable housing options, it is imperative that each level of government take decisive action and invest in housing. With rising housing costs, population growth, and chronic underproduction, the shortage of affordable housing is making homelessness a growing concern for many families.

The lack of affordable housing options is an issue that affects not only the well-being of individuals and families, but the health and vitality of our communities. We believe that all levels of government play a critical role in addressing the housing crisis. The Affordable Homes Act is a key step towards meeting the housing needs of all Washingtonians—helping the state to close the gap of 500,000 low-income homes by 2044 that the private market will not supply.

The Affordable Homes Act aims to increase the supply of affordable housing and offers jurisdictions the option to establish a local funding source dedicated to affordable housing. A local funding source is critical and can make affordable housing projects more competitive to receive other state, federal, and private funds to support housing development and operations. The ongoing housing crisis requires a comprehensive solution and large-scale investments in housing to make a meaningful difference in the lives of Washington residents.

We urge you to allow us to do our part in making a significant and positive impact on the lives of individuals and families in our cities by supporting **HB 1628**.

Sincerely,

Albert Tripp, City Manager, Airway Heights
Carolyn Moulton, Councilmember, Anacortes
Debora Nelson, Councilmember, Arlington
Nancy Backus, Mayor, Auburn
Lynne Robinson, Mayor, Bellevue
Seth Fleetwood, Mayor, Bellingham
Mason Thompson, Mayor Bothell
Greg Wheeler, Mayor, Bremerton
Jeff Coughlin, Councilmember, Bremerton
James Fletcher, Mayor, Cashmere
Bob Goedde, Mayor, Chelan
Mike Rizzitiello, City Administrator, College Place
Regan Bolli, City Manager, Covington

Michael Mattias, City Manager, Des Moines
Kathleen Allstot, Councilmember, Ephrata
Denice Kulseth, City Administrator, Friday Harbor
Mary Lou Pauly, Mayor, Issaquah
Angela Kugler, Councilmember, Kenmore
David Baker, Councilmember, Kenmore
Nigel Herbig, Mayor, Kenmore
Jay Arnold, Deputy Mayor, Kirkland
Kelli Curtis, Councilmember, Kirkland
Neal Black, Councilmember, Kirkland
Anne Hessburg, Mayor Pro Tem, Leavenworth
Carl Florea, Mayor, Leavenworth
Clint Strand, Councilmember, Leavenworth

Zeke Reister, Councilmember, Leavenworth
Marco Aurilio, Councilmember, Leavenworth
Tom Sahlberg, Councilmember, Liberty Lake
Sue Svendsen, Mayor Pro Tem, Long Beach
Salim Nice, Mayor, Mercer Island
Shanna Styron Sherrell, Mayor, Milton
Linda Newing, Mayor, Newcastle
Scott Pingel, City Manager, Newcastle
Cheryl Selby, Mayor, Olympia
Joshua Penner, Mayor, Orting
Adam Lincoln, City Manager, Pasco
Kate Dexter, Mayor, Port Angeles
Rob Putaansuu, Mayor, Port Orchard
Amy Howard, Deputy Mayor, Port Townsend
Monica MickHager, Councilmember, Port Townsend
Steve King, City Manager, Port Townsend
Ed Stern, Councilmember, Poulsbo
Rebecca Erickson, Mayor, Poulsbo
Angela Birney, Mayor, Redmond
Armondo Pavone, Mayor, Renton
Kristi Rowland, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer,
Renton
Ron Onslow, Councilmember, Ridgefield

Bruce Harrell, Mayor, Seattle
Teresa Mosqueda, Councilmember, Seattle
Keith Scully, Mayor, Shoreline
Linda Redmon, Mayor, Snohomish
Rob Wotton, Councilmember, Snoqualmie
Betsy Wilkerson, Councilmember, Spokane
Breean Beggs, Councilmember, Spokane
Zack Zappone, Councilmember, Spokane
Victoria Woodards, Mayor, Tacoma
Debbie Zabell, City Manager, Toppenish
Allan Ekberg, Mayor, Tukwila
Cynthia Delostrinos Johnson, Councilmember,
Tukwila
Kathy Hougardy, Councilmember, Tukwila
Kent Keel, Councilmember, University Place
Eric Holmes, City Manager, Vancouver
Randy Hinchliffe, City Administrator, Waitsburg
Elizabeth Chamberlain, City Manager, Walla Walla
Fred Brink, Mayor Pro Tem, West Richland
Kate Moran, Councilmember, West Richland
Marla Keethler, Mayor, White Salmon
Holly Cousens, Councilmember, Yakima
Michael Grayum, City Administrator, Zillah