



**Community, Equity, Action**

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March 25, 2021

Hon. Scott Wiener, Chair  
Senate Housing Committee  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Subject: SUPPORT SB 765 (Stern) as introduced Feb.19, 2021**

Dear Senator Wiener,

Livable California, a nonprofit that advocates for truly affordable housing, self-determination of local government, and protecting equity and livability, **strongly supports SB 765.**

SB 765 will restore to cities their practical (and varied) side- and rear- yard setbacks for new construction of ADU's. The Bill supports clear and consistent rules at the local level and will relieve cities from the impractical "one-size-fits-all" setback mandate in current law. Previously chaptered ADU law ordered — statewide — uniform setbacks standards, negatively affecting all California cities regardless of local conditions.

This bill further enables an alternative review procedure where site specific topography requires narrower side- and rear- yard setbacks.

There are corrections needed to the bill language (850sf/1200sf); but its primary purpose to restore clear and consistent locally tailored rules deserves support.

Sincerely,

The Board of Directors of Livable California

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rick Hall", is written over a horizontal line.

Rick Hall, President

T Keith Gurnee, Member

Carey White, Member

Isaiah Madison, Member

cc: Senator Henry Stern