



August 30, 2019

**ASSEMBLY FLOOR ALERT**

**RE: SB 611 (Caballero) – Master Plan for Aging: Housing Older Persons Effectively (HOPE)  
SUPPORT**

The California Association of Public Authorities for IHSS is in support of SB 611, by Senator Caballero, which requires the Governor to establish the Master Plan for Aging's Housing Older Persons Effectively (HOPE) to assess the housing issues affecting California's aging population.

The state's lack of affordable housing and higher costs of living has forced many older adults who live on fixed incomes into poverty and homelessness. As housing costs rise, retirement incomes, such as Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI), have remained stagnant and many low-income older adults find it impossible to pay their rent and related housing costs. It is reported that more than half of the people experiencing homelessness are over age 57. According to a recent study by the University of California, San Francisco, the percentage of homeless adults older than the age of 50 has grown from 11% in 1990 to 50% in 2019. The aging of California's population will only heighten this problem, with the state's over-65 population set to nearly double by 2030. Therefore, while much has been done to address the housing crisis in our state, we must do better to ensure that the housing needs of California's older adults are not forgotten.

SB 611 addresses the housing needs of older adults by establishing the HOPE Task Force (or Housing Older Persons Effectively Task Force) as part of the Master Plan for Aging. The HOPE Task Force will convene California's foremost experts on housing issues to bring innovative and effective solutions that will help older adults remain at home and avoid homelessness, while also helping to identify current programs and developing best practices for the future.

We respectfully urge your "aye" vote on SB 611.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Karen Keeslar'.

Karen Keeslar, CAPA Executive Director

cc: Senator Caballero