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BREAKING

## Governor signs Steinorth's housing bill into law

James Folmer, editor, Highland Community News Jul 19, 2018 Updated Jul 19, 2018



Marc Steinorth may be a lame duck in the California Assembly, but Gov. Jerry Brown has signed his legislation to increase low-income housing in San Bernardino County.

Steinorth's AB 1768 was approved unanimously in both houses unanimously. It was signed into law on July 9.

"The housing affordability crisis is pushing the reality of homeownership further out of reach for many Californians," said Steinorth, a Republican from Rancho Cucamonga. "In response, we worked hard this year to tackle the housing crisis from all sides and I am grateful to announce our success with AB 1768, which has been signed into law by Governor Brown."

AB 1768 will authorize the County of San Bernardino to develop, operate, and finance mixed-income housing projects. This legislation will give incentives to developers to meet the needs of our middle-class families by building housing projects for both middle- and low-income persons in the County of San Bernardino.

"This new financing tool for the county will better serve what is known as 'The Missing Middle.' These are our working class families, our teachers, first-responders, and nurses, who earn too much to qualify for existing affordable housing programs, but still need assistance in affording to live in the communities where they work," Steinorth said in a press release. "This is a big win for San Bernardino County."

In the 1930s, the federal government created housing authorities to stimulate urban renewal, according to an Assembly analysis. In the 1990s, the federal Department of Housing and Urban development designated housing authorities as "Moving to Work" agencies to help residents find jobs that could lead to self-sufficiency and expand affordable.

Redevelopment agencies were required to spend at least 20 percent of their assets on low-income housing. When they were disbanded in 2011, many housing authorities took over the assets designated for housing.

When San Bernardino County Supervisor James Ramos challenged Steinorth for his 40<sup>th</sup> District seat, he decided to quit the Assembly and challenge Supervisor Janice Rutherford for her District 2 seat. Rutherford won the June 5 election with 53.3 percent of the vote.