OCT 05 2021

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 477 without my signature.

This bill would require a city or county planning agency to include specified information for proposed housing development projects within its jurisdiction in its annual report.

I strongly agree that in order to solve California’s housing crisis, we must require more accountability at every level of government. That’s why I signed AB 1483 (Chapter 662, Statutes of 2019) to require the Department of Housing and Community Development to develop a data strategy as part of the statewide housing plan – implementation is currently underway and the Department will produce its recommendations in January, on-time.

As HCD continues its work to implement AB 1483, I am directing the Department to consider including data on the effectiveness of various housing laws, as this bill contemplates. Building this analysis into the existing data process is the more appropriate approach to this issue, as opposed to creating a new requirement while the Department is mid-stream on implementing the thoughtful provisions of AB 1483.

As the Department completes this important work, further statutory changes may be necessary to implement any recommendations. I look forward to
working with the Legislature next year to enact potential improvements identified by the Department.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newson