



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Habitat for Humanity California, the California Association of REALTORS® and the California Building Industry Association call on Gov. Newsom to Increase Homeownership for California’s Working Families

Sacramento, Calif., December 16, 2021 - [Habitat for Humanity California](#), the [California Association of REALTORS®](#) (C.A.R.) and the [California Building Industry Association](#) (CBIA) sent a joint letter to Gov. Gavin Newsom asking the state to prioritize homeownership for California’s working families in the upcoming legislative session.

“The need for homeownership has never been greater, and we have the ability to address the issue if the political will exists,” the organizations said.

In the letter, Habitat for Humanity California, C.A.R. and CBIA called on Gov. Newsom to allocate a minimum 20% of total state housing funding from the 2022-23 budget for the production of owner-occupied, deed-restricted affordable homes for Californians, who would otherwise be priced out of homeownership. The organizations also asked that \$200 million be used to support new construction within the [CalHome program](#).

“If we continue to ignore the need to develop affordable ownership homes, we are failing our underserved communities who continue to experience historically low homeownership rates, especially families of color who have historically been excluded from the opportunities to build generational wealth and security that comes from homeownership,” the letter read.

California’s homeownership rate is currently 16.9% below the national average. Homeownership in California was measured at [just 54.5% in the first fiscal quarter of 2021](#).

“Homeownership provides an unparalleled ability to provide stability and economic security for working families, while strengthening communities across California. It builds equity across generations, enhances educational outcomes and improves health,” the organizations said.

[Read the full letter here.](#)

About Habitat for Humanity California

Habitat for Humanity California is a coalition of Habitat for Humanity Affiliates statewide providing affordable homeownership - the permanent solution for housing and for growing economic and racial equity. We build affordable multi-family and single-family homes, create opportunities, and promote equitable access to affordable mortgages.

About the California Association of REALTORS®

Leading the way...® in California real estate for more than 110 years, the [CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®](#) (www.car.org) is one of the largest state trade organizations in the United States with more than 200,000 members dedicated to the advancement of professionalism in real estate. C.A.R. is headquartered in Los Angeles.

About the California Building Industry Association

The California Building Industry Association is a statewide trade association based in Sacramento representing thousands of member companies including homebuilders, trade contractors, architects, engineers, designers, suppliers and industry professionals in the homebuilding, multi-family and mixed-use development markets.

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