June 3, 2014

Board of Supervisors
800 S. Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009

SUBJECT: Adoption of a Position of Support for AB 2026

RECOMMENDATION:
Adopt a position of Support of AB 2026 and convey this position to our legislative delegation

DISCUSSION:
Within the Ventura County unincorporated area there are 26 mobilehome parks. These parks comprise an important reservoir of affordable ownership housing, and many provide critical low-income and senior housing. The County General Plan housing policies include:

“The County shall support the efforts of private and public agencies to preserve the existing housing stock including all housing types such as, single-family, multi-family, farmworker, second dwelling units, manufactured and mobile homes.”

Mobilehomes are generally not mobile, and preserving this important affordable housing stock involves assuring a process wherein the owner of a home can sell the home to an incoming purchaser. State law currently allows a mobilehome park owner to reject a mobilehome purchaser who does not meet the park owner’s own financial standards, whatever those may be. This current situation raises concerns that park owners may unreasonably reject qualified home purchasers, thereby affecting access to affordable housing and the potential loss of affordable housing stock.

Assembly Bill 2026 establishes a process and standards by which park owners, homeowners, and prospective home purchasers can assure a fair and objective basis for judging whether a purchaser can meet their financial obligations. Several cities and counties have formally supported the bill, including the County of Santa Barbara. Please join me in supporting this important bill to protect affordable housing and the rights of mobilehome owners.

Cordially,

Steve Bennett
Supervisor, First District