July 13, 2021

The Honorable Lorena Gonzalez
Chair, Assembly Committee on Appropriations
State Capitol, Room 2114
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: SB 9 (Atkins) - OPPOSE

Dear Assemblymember Gonzalez:

I am writing on behalf of the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors to regretfully state our opposition on Senate Bill 9 (Atkins), which would require a local government to ministerially approve the development of two residential units in single-family residential zones, as well as the splitting of parcels in those same zones.

The County acknowledges the need to create more housing opportunities for low and moderate income levels. Unfortunately, SB 9 would override the traditional ability of localities to control the development process and would likely not result in housing affordable to low, moderate, and workforce (up to 200% of AMI) income families/individuals in Santa Barbara County.

The Board of Supervisors adopted a 2021 Legislative Platform which includes the local control principle that specifically opposes the preemption of local control of land use policies. For these reasons, the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors must oppose SB 9 (Atkins). If you have questions about the Board’s position, please contact the County’s Legislative Coordinator, Jasmine McGinty at 805-568-3108 or jmcginty@countyofsb.org. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Cliff Berg
Governmental Advocates, Inc.
cc:  The Honorable Senator Pro Tempore Toni Atkins, Author
The Honorable Members, Assembly Committee on Appropriations
Jennifer Swenson, Principal Consultant, Assembly Committee on Appropriations
William Weber, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus
The Honorable Senator Monique Limon, 19th Senate District
The Honorable Assemblymember Steve Bennett, 37th Assembly District
The Honorable Assemblymember Jordan Cunningham, 35th Assembly District
Members, County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors
Mona Miyasato, County Executive Officer, County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors
Nancy Anderson, Assistant County Executive Officer, County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors