

April 15, 2019

The Honorable Rob Bonta  
California State Assembly  
Sacramento, California

RE: SB 529 (Durazo) - Support

# EAST BAY FOR EVERYONE

Dear Assemblymember Bonta:

On behalf of East Bay for Everyone we are writing to express support for SB 529, a bill to protect the right of tenants to organize their communities.

East Bay For Everyone is a regional network of renters, homeowners, landlords, and housing advocates throughout the East Bay who organize for housing. We believe that housing is infrastructure rather than an investment, and that immediate action needs to be taken to protect Californians from the housing insecurity caused by our severe housing shortage.

SB 529 would prevent landlords from retaliating against tenants for soliciting interest, distributing information, and meeting independently to discuss and act on their interests as a group. In today's housing shortage, tenants often find themselves unable to advocate against substandard living conditions, excessive rent hikes, or other unfair treatment, for fear of losing their home. Just as labor organizing protections are proven necessary to safeguard the rights of workers, tenant protections are needed to combat the asymmetric market power landlords hold.

This legislation is a critical part of the actions the Legislature can take this year to promote justice for renters, and we hope you will support it.

Sincerely,

The 1,000 members and supporters of East Bay for Everyone