

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Westside Regional Alliance of Councils  
**Date Submitted:** 02/27/2021 08:50 AM  
**Council File No:** 21-0002-S18  
**Comments for Public Posting:** The Westside Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC), representing all 14 Neighborhood and Community Councils in CDs 5 and 11 and portions of CDs 4 and 10 on the Westside of Los Angeles, submits the attached letter in SUPPORT of the resolution by Councilmember Koretz in CF 21-0002-S18 to oppose Senate Bill 9. WRAC respectfully requests that the Council Rules, Elections and Intergovernmental Relations Committee take up this matter at the earliest opportunity in light of the fact that SB 9 will be heard in the Senate Housing Committee on March 18, 2021.



Westside  
Regional  
Alliance of  
Councils

[westsidecouncils.com](http://westsidecouncils.com)

Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council  
Brentwood Community Council  
Del Rey Neighborhood Council  
Mar Vista Community Council  
Neighborhood Council of Westchester-Playa  
Pacific Palisades Community Council  
North Westwood Neighborhood Council

Palms Neighborhood Council  
South Robertson Neighborhoods Council  
Venice Neighborhood Council  
West LA-Sawtelle Neighborhood Council  
Westside Neighborhood Council  
Westwood Community Council  
Westwood Neighborhood Council

February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Hon. Nury Martinez, President, Los Angeles City Council and Chair, Rules, Elections and Intergovernmental Relations Committee (REIRC)

Hon. Joe Buscaino, Vice-Chair, REIRC

Hon. Mark Ridley-Thomas, Member, REIRC

Hon. Paul Koretz, Councilmember, CD 5

**Re: CF 21-0002-S18 (Koretz); assigned to Council REIRC – SUPPORT Resolution to Oppose SB 9**

Dear REIRC Chair Martinez, Vice-Chair Buscaino and Member Ridley-Thomas; and Councilmember Koretz:

The Westside Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC) is an alliance of fourteen Neighborhood and Community Councils on the Westside of Angeles, located in CDs 5 and 11 and portions of CDs 4 and 10.

Many Westside Neighborhood and Community Councils have expressed concerns about Senate Bill 9 (Atkins). Therefore, WRAC has passed, by a majority of voting Councils in our alliance, a motion to **oppose Senate Bill 9 and support City Council File 21-0002-S18** (Resolution to oppose SB 9). The full text of the WRAC motion is attached below.

The language of the motion has been approved by the following WRAC member Councils: Brentwood Community Council, Neighborhood Council Westchester/Playa, West LA-Sawtelle Neighborhood Council and Westwood Neighborhood Council. Modified versions that maintain the spirit of the above motion have been passed by Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council, Mar Vista Community Council, Pacific Palisades Community Council and Westside Neighborhood Council.

No member Councils have opposed this measure or submitted a minority letter to accompany this position.

We have just learned that the Senate Housing Committee will be hearing SB 9 on March 18, 2021, and that position letters must be submitted by March 12. WRAC therefore respectfully requests that the REIRC set a special meeting at the earliest opportunity, in order to hear this matter and pass the resolution in CF 21-0002-S18 for the full Council's consideration in sufficient time prior to the Senate Committee's submission deadline.



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Westside Neighborhood Council  
Westwood Community Council  
Westwood Neighborhood Council

Please contact me with any questions regarding the above motion.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Matt Wersinger'.

Matt Wersinger, Chair  
Westside Regional Alliance of Councils  
C 310.721.2980

cc:

Hon. Eric Garcetti, Mayor, City of Los Angeles  
Hon. Mike Bonin, Councilmember, CD 11  
Hon. Nithya Raman, Councilmember, CD 4

### Attachment

#### **Motion: Oppose Senate Bill 9; support resolution in CF 21-0002-S18**

Whereas, Senate Bill 9 violates the California Coastal Act (Public Resources Code §§30000 et seq.) by failing to exempt parcels within the Coastal zone, by purporting to eliminate hearings for Coastal Development Permits, and by requiring by-right/expedited approval of all projects permitted under the bill, including projects within the Coastal zone which otherwise require discretionary review, including hearings, under the Coastal Act;

Whereas, Senate Bill 9 violates the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code §§ 21065 and 21080) and shortcuts required CEQA review by declaring preemptively that a project permitted under the bill is not a “project” under CEQA, without regard to the test established by controlling caselaw, that is, whether the ordinance in a given case is “capable of causing a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect change in the environment” (Union of Medical Marijuana Patients, Inc. v. City of San Diego (California Coastal Commission, Real Party in Interest), (2019) 7 Cal.5th 1171);



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Whereas, Senate Bill 9 compromises public safety and puts the lives and property of thousands of California residents in the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone (VHFHSZ) at risk from increased density by failing to provide any exemption for parcels within the VHFHSZ;

Whereas, Senate Bill 9 fails to address the state's affordable housing crisis or to further the purported goal of "ensuring an adequate supply of affordable housing" by not specifying or requiring any particular amount or level of affordable housing (low to moderate income/workforce housing) in projects permitted pursuant to the bill;

Whereas, Councilmember Paul Koretz has introduced a resolution in Los Angeles City Council, CF 21-0002- S18, calling for the City of Los Angeles to oppose Senate Bill 9;

Therefore, the Westside Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC) opposes Senate Bill 9 (Atkins) and supports the resolution in CF 21-0002-S18 (Koretz) calling for the City of Los Angeles to oppose Senate Bill 9.

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 02/27/2021 08:57 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0002-S18

**Comments for Public Posting:** I oppose SB9 and SB10

Dear Committee,  
I oppose State Bill 9. My name is Niloo Eskandari and I live at 236 N. Lucerne Blvd, Los Angeles CA 90004.

The reasons I oppose SB 9 are as follows:

1. The theory that building any kind of housing will eventually create affordable housing is false, especially in a competitive housing market like Los Angeles. By adding more buildings to land, prices will continue to increase, making housing less and less affordable. Abundant housing and affordable housing are not the same thing and abundant housing does not lead to affordable housing.
2. California is already promoting multi-family housing in R1 zones through the new ADU laws. R1 zoned neighborhoods are already adding thousands of housing units through the new ADU / JADU legislation. Adding more building legislation to allow for duplexes is unnecessary.
3. SB 9 limits zoning standards like setbacks, creating less open space and increasing risks for fire.
4. SB9 does not require upgrades to infrastructures that are already exhausted. The existing water, power, sewer and gas infrastructures will not be able to support this increase in demand.
5. SB 9 does not require parking with the development of these new buildings which means parking will become a bigger and bigger issue.
6. California is a diverse state. It's diverse in population, topology, building materials, weather, wealth, business and so on. SB 9 may be appropriate for certain parts of the state. It is not appropriate for Los Angeles.

Please vote NO on SB 9.  
A concerned Californian,  
Niloo Eskandari