

Governor John Bel Edwards Vetoes Senate Bill 462

NEW ORLEANS - On Saturday, May 26, 2018, Governor John Bel Edwards took a critical step toward supporting affordable housing efforts throughout the state with his decision to veto Senate Bill 462, which would have banned municipal and parish governments from establishing inclusionary zoning policies.

The Louisiana Legislature recently made the detrimental decision to pass Senator Martiny's bill, which replaced the phrase "inclusionary zoning" with "voluntary economic incentive policies," to make it so that affordable housing policies would be voluntary, rather than mandated as recommended by New Orleans' City Planning Commission and City Council.

Over the last few months, the Greater New Orleans Housing Alliance (GNOHA), the New Orleans City Council, and a coalition of other affordable housing allies across the state issued clarion calls to Governor Edwards to veto the bill for the detrimental and widespread effects its implementation would have on the development of affordable housing.

"I am so thrilled that Governor Edwards has heard our plea and will stand with us as we combat our statewide affordable housing crisis," said President and Chairwoman of GNOHA Andreanecia Morris. "Had Senator Martiny's bill moved forward, it would have set us back years. I cannot commend our Governor enough for taking this action to Put Housing First and ensure that we may continue our work to create safe and affordable housing for all."

To view the official letter from Governor Edwards vetoing the bill, click <u>here</u>.

###

The Greater New Orleans Housing Alliance

(GNOHA) is a collaborative of non-profit housing builders and community development corporations working to rebuild the housing stock available in the city of New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina devastated the city's infrastructure. Since its creation in 2007, GNOHA has sought to create change in the Greater New Orleans community through public policy advocacy and public education. The collaborative advocates for the preservation and production of affordable housing for people within the Greater New Orleans metropolitan region and places a special emphasis on the needs of the most vulnerable in society - seniors, people with disabilities, veterans, low-wage workers and low-income families.