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California Association for Local Economic Development

April 22, 2021

The Honorable Senator Eloise Gómez Reyes
State Capitol, Room 319
Sacramento, California 95814

RE: Opposition to AB 1547

Dear Assembly Member Reyes:

The California Association for Local Economic Development (CALED), an organization representing more than 800 public and private local economic development professionals, regrets that it must oppose your AB 1547.

This bill requires a warehouse development project to provide a 3000-yard (1.7 mile) buffer zone between the warehouse and a "sensitive land use." "Sensitive land use" is not defined, but intent language focuses on health impacts of associated truck traffic on adjacent residents.

While we appreciate your concerns about environmental impacts of logistics facilities and warehouses, we believe that environmental impacts of these and other land uses are appropriately addressed under the existing California Environmental Quality Act and air quality laws. Furthermore, efficiency standards for new trucks and vehicles continue to be improved as the state continues on an accelerated policy path toward more electric (zero emission) vehicles.

Warehouses and logistics facilities form a vital part of the goods movement network. They serve as the backbone of our economy and are critical to ensuring an adequate distribution of food, clothing, medicines and other vital goods to our state's residents. Imposing a 1.7 mile buffer would effectively ban these facilities from some communities, accelerate sprawl and increase vehicle miles traveled by pushing them into rural areas.

For these reasons, CALED regrettably opposes this legislation. For any questions about our position, I can be reached at 916-448-8252.

Sincerely,

Gurbax Sahota
President & CEO

Cc: Assembly Member Luz Rivas, Chair, Assembly Natural Resources Committee
Members, Assembly Natural Resources Committee