

AB 1232: Healthy Homes



What is AB 1232?

AB 1232 by Todd Gloria increases anti-displacement protections for the Low-Income Weatherization Program (LIWP)--the state-run energy efficiency and weatherization program designed to serve low-income residents. It also increases collaboration between LIWP and health programs to address health issues like mold or lead and provide comprehensive upgrades in homes. The focus is on the LIWP Multifamily Program as an established and successful program that can serve as a strong base for this expansion.



How will AB 1232 improve your community?

Health Benefits

No tenant should have to live in substandard conditions and be afraid of speaking up for fear of rent increase or eviction post-upgrade. Creating pathways for tenants to get the energy and health upgrades they need without financial burden or risking home security means a safer, more comfortable place to live. **Nearly 4 million households live in multifamily housing in CA, and 88% of them are renters.**

Bill Savings

Working class families are heavily burdened by high rents and high energy bills. For the more than 790,000 CA households below the 50% federal poverty level, **almost half of monthly income goes to paying the utility bills.** Energy efficiency measures can play a big role in cutting bills significantly while maintaining comfort inside.

Energy Efficiency and climate resilience

The majority of CA housing was built before 1980, when energy efficiency rules were instated. CA also has ambitious climate goals that can't be met from producing renewable energy alone. If even a fraction of multifamily units in CA were to improve energy efficiency by 25%, it would reduce annual energy consumption and avert almost half a million metric tons of CO2 annually. As climate change creates more extreme conditions, weatherized windows, temperature control, and ventilation systems will be that much more important for communities on the frontlines.

Why do we need AB 1232?

CA's green economy is growing and all communities deserve to benefit. Working class families who rent and are dealing with rising energy bills and hazardous conditions deserve the support to live in safe, healthy homes.

AB 1232 ensures that low-income families who rent have access to no-cost services to improve the safety and habitability of their homes while protecting their ability to stay and continue to benefit from the upgraded unit.

"Many of our members are older and seeing their kids struggle with high rents and unsafe living conditions. They're asking, 'Why can't we start from a place where everyone's home is healthy? Why should people have to sacrifice their health to keep a roof over their head?'"

--APEN Oakland organizer,
Kenneth Tang



"Last year, my family couldn't afford to pay our PG&E bill each month. At the end of the year, they sent us a bill for over \$2000 and threatened to shut off our electricity if we didn't pay. Without donations and support from our community, they would have shut off our power at the coldest time of the year...Living in Richmond, a community that faces constant pollution from the Chevron Refinery, we need clean energy and we also need to reduce our energy bills."

--Lipo Chanthanasak, APEN Leader

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