AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 30, 2022

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 20, 2022

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 16, 2022

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 19, 2022

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 18, 2022

AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 14, 2022

SENATE BILL No. 897

Introduced by Senator Wieckowski

February 1, 2022

An act to amend Section 65852.22 of, to add Section 65852.23 to, and to repeal and amend Section 65852.2 of, the Government Code, and to amend Section 17980.12 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to land use.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 897, as amended, Wieckowski. Accessory dwelling units: junior accessory dwelling units.

(1) Existing law, the Planning and Zoning Law, authorizes a local agency, by ordinance or ministerial approval, to provide for the creation of accessory dwelling units in areas zoned for residential use, as specified. Existing law authorizes a local agency to impose standards on accessory dwelling units that include, but are not limited to, parking, height, setback, landscape, architectural review, and maximum size of a unit.

This bill would require that the standards imposed on accessory dwelling units be objective. For purposes of this requirement, the bill

would define "objective standard" as a standard that involves no personal or subjective judgment by a public official and is uniformly verifiable, as specified. The bill would also prohibit a local agency from denying an application for a permit to create an accessory dwelling unit due to the correction of nonconforming zoning ~~conditions~~ *conditions, building code violations,* or unpermitted structures that *do not present a threat to public health and safety and* are not affected by the construction of the accessory dwelling unit.

This bill would require a local agency to review and issue a demolition permit for a detached garage that is to be replaced by an accessory dwelling unit at the same time as it reviews and issues the permit for the accessory dwelling unit. The bill would prohibit an applicant from being required to provide written notice or post a placard for the demolition of a detached garage that is to be replaced by an accessory dwelling unit, as specified.

Existing law provides that an accessory dwelling unit may either be an attached or detached residential dwelling unit, and prescribes the minimum and maximum unit size requirements, height limitations, and setback requirements that a local agency may establish, including a 16-foot height limitation and a 4-foot side and rear setback requirement.

This bill would increase the maximum height limitation that may be imposed by a local agency on an accessory dwelling unit to ~~25~~ *18* feet if the accessory dwelling unit is within ½ mile walking distance of a major transit stop or a high-quality transit corridor, as those terms are defined, or if the accessory dwelling unit is ~~attached to a primary dwelling, as specified.~~ *detached and on a lot that has an existing multifamily, multistory dwelling, as specified. The bill would increase the maximum height limitation that may be imposed by a local agency on an accessory dwelling unit to 25 feet if the accessory dwelling unit is attached to a primary dwelling.*

Existing law requires an ordinance that provides for the creation of an accessory dwelling unit to require accessory dwelling units to comply with local building code requirements that apply to detached dwellings, as appropriate. Existing law also prohibits an ordinance from requiring an accessory dwelling unit to provide fire sprinklers if they are not required for the primary residence.

This bill would provide that the construction of an accessory dwelling unit does not constitute a Group R occupancy change under the local building code, *except* as specified. The bill would ~~also~~ prohibit the construction of an accessory dwelling unit from triggering a requirement

that fire sprinklers be installed in the ~~proposed or~~ existing primary dwelling.

Existing law provides that a local agency shall ministerially approve an application for a building permit within a residential or mixed-use zone to create not more than 2 accessory dwelling units that are located on a lot that has an existing multifamily dwelling, but are detached from that multifamily dwelling and are subject to a height limitation of 16 feet and a 4-foot side and rear setback requirement.

This bill would change the height limitation applicable to an accessory dwelling unit subject to ministerial approval to ~~25~~ *18* feet if the accessory dwelling unit is within ½ mile walking distance of a major transit stop or a high-quality transit corridor, as those terms are defined, or if the accessory dwelling unit is ~~attached to a primary dwelling,~~ *detached and on a lot that has an existing multifamily, multistory dwelling,* as specified. *The bill would change the height limitation applicable to an accessory dwelling unit subject to ministerial approval to 25 feet if the accessory dwelling unit is attached to a primary dwelling.* The bill, if the existing multifamily dwelling exceeds applicable height requirements or has a rear or side setback of less than 4 feet, would prohibit a local agency from requiring any modification to the existing multifamily dwelling to satisfy these requirements. The bill would prohibit a local agency from rejecting an application for an accessory dwelling unit because the existing multifamily dwelling exceeds applicable height requirements or has a rear or side setback of less than 4 feet.

Existing law prohibits a local agency from imposing parking standards on certain accessory dwelling units, including those that are located within ½-mile walking distance of public transit.

This bill would ~~require a local agency, when a permit application for an accessory dwelling unit is submitted with a permit application to create new multifamily dwelling units, to reduce the number of required parking spaces for the multifamily dwelling by 2 parking spaces for each accessory dwelling unit located on the lot.~~ *also prohibit a local agency from imposing any parking standards on an accessory dwelling unit that is included in an application to create a new single-family dwelling unit or a new multifamily dwelling on the same lot, provided that the accessory dwelling unit meets other specified requirements.*

(2) Existing law also provides for the creation of junior accessory dwelling units by local ordinance, or, if a local agency has not adopted an ordinance, by ministerial approval, in accordance with specified

standards and conditions. Existing law requires an ordinance that provides for the creation of a junior accessory dwelling unit to, among other things, (A) require that the unit be constructed within the walls of the proposed or existing single-family residence, (B) require that the unit include a separate entrance from the main entrance to the proposed or existing single-family residence, and (C) require owner-occupancy in the single-family residence in which the junior accessory dwelling unit is permitted.

This bill would specify that enclosed uses within the proposed or existing single-family residence, such as attached garages, are considered a part of the proposed or existing single-family residence. The bill would require a junior accessory dwelling unit that does not include a separate bathroom to include a separate entrance from the main entrance to the structure, with an interior entry to the main living area. The bill would also prohibit a local agency from denying an application for a permit to create a junior accessory dwelling unit due to the correction of nonconforming zoning ~~conditions~~ *conditions, building code violations,* or unpermitted structures that *do not present a threat to public health and safety and* are not affected by the construction of the junior accessory dwelling unit.

(3) Existing law requires a local agency, in enforcing building standards applicable to accessory dwelling units, to delay enforcement for up to 5 years upon the owner submitting an application requesting the delay on the basis that correcting the violation is not necessary to protect health and safety.

~~This bill would extend that delay in enforcement to the building standards applicable to the primary dwelling of the accessory dwelling unit, provided that correcting the violation is not necessary to protect health and safety.~~

This bill would prohibit a local agency from denying a permit for an unpermitted accessory dwelling unit that was constructed before January 1, 2018, because, among other things, the unit is in violation of building standards or state or local standards applicable to accessory dwelling units, unless the local agency makes a finding that correcting the violation is necessary to protect the health and safety of the public or occupants of the structure. This bill would specify that this prohibition does not apply to a building that is deemed substandard under specified provisions of law.

(4) Existing law requires the Department of Housing and Community Development to administer various programs intended to promote the

development of housing, including the Multifamily Housing Program, pursuant to which the department provides financial assistance in the form of deferred payment loans to pay for the eligible costs of development for specified activities.

This bill would state the intent of the Legislature that accessory dwelling unit grant programs provide funding for predevelopment costs and facilitate accountability and oversight, as specified.

(5) By imposing new duties on local governments with respect to the approval of accessory dwelling units and junior accessory dwelling units, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. It is the intent of the Legislature to ensure that grant programs that fund the construction and maintenance of accessory dwelling units undertake both of the following:

(a) Provide funding for predevelopment costs, such as development of plans and permitting of accessory dwelling units.

(b) Facilitate accountability and oversight, including annual reporting on outcomes to the Legislature.

SEC. 2. Section 65852.2 of the Government Code, as amended by Section 1 of Chapter 343 of the Statutes of 2021, is amended to read:

65852.2. (a) (1) A local agency may, by ordinance, provide for the creation of accessory dwelling units in areas zoned to allow single-family or multifamily dwelling residential use. The ordinance shall do all of the following:

(A) Designate areas within the jurisdiction of the local agency where accessory dwelling units may be permitted. The designation of areas may be based on the adequacy of water and sewer services and the impact of accessory dwelling units on traffic flow and public safety. A local agency that does not provide water or sewer services shall consult with the local water or sewer service provider

regarding the adequacy of water and sewer services before designating an area where accessory dwelling units may be permitted.

(B) (i) Impose objective standards on accessory dwelling units that include, but are not limited to, parking, height, setback, landscape, architectural review, maximum size of a unit, and standards that prevent adverse impacts on any real property that is listed in the California Register of Historical Resources. These standards shall not include requirements on minimum lot size.

(ii) Notwithstanding clause (i), a local agency may reduce or eliminate parking requirements for any accessory dwelling unit located within its jurisdiction.

(C) Provide that accessory dwelling units do not exceed the allowable density for the lot upon which the accessory dwelling unit is located, and that accessory dwelling units are a residential use that is consistent with the existing general plan and zoning designation for the lot.

(D) Require the accessory dwelling units to comply with all of the following:

(i) Except as provided in Section 65852.26, the accessory dwelling unit may be rented separate from the primary residence, but may not be sold or otherwise conveyed separate from the primary residence.

(ii) The lot is zoned to allow single-family or multifamily dwelling residential use and includes a proposed or existing dwelling.

(iii) The accessory dwelling unit is either attached to, or located within, the proposed or existing primary dwelling, including attached garages, storage areas or similar uses, or an accessory structure or detached from the proposed or existing primary dwelling and located on the same lot as the proposed or existing primary dwelling.

(iv) If there is an existing primary dwelling, the total floor area of an attached accessory dwelling unit shall not exceed 50 percent of the existing primary dwelling.

(v) The total floor area for a detached accessory dwelling unit shall not exceed 1,200 square feet.

(vi) No passageway shall be required in conjunction with the construction of an accessory dwelling unit.

(vii) No setback shall be required for an existing living area or accessory structure or a structure constructed in the same location and to the same dimensions as an existing structure that is converted to an accessory dwelling unit or to a portion of an accessory dwelling unit, and a setback of no more than four feet from the side and rear lot lines shall be required for an accessory dwelling unit that is not converted from an existing structure or a new structure constructed in the same location and to the same dimensions as an existing structure.

(viii) Local building code requirements that apply to detached dwellings, except that the construction of an accessory dwelling unit shall not constitute a Group R occupancy change under the local building code, as described in Section 310 of the California Building Code (Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations). *Nothing in this clause shall be interpreted to prevent a local agency from changing the occupancy code of a space that was only permitted for nonresidential use and was subsequently converted into a residential use pursuant to this section.*

(ix) Approval by the local health officer where a private sewage disposal system is being used, if required.

(x) (I) Parking requirements for accessory dwelling units shall not exceed one parking space per accessory dwelling unit or per bedroom, whichever is less. These spaces may be provided as tandem parking on a driveway.

(II) Offstreet parking shall be permitted in setback areas in locations determined by the local agency or through tandem parking, unless specific findings are made that parking in setback areas or tandem parking is not feasible based upon specific site or regional topographical or fire and life safety conditions.

(III) This clause shall not apply to an accessory dwelling unit that is described in subdivision (d).

(xi) When a garage, carport, or covered parking structure is demolished in conjunction with the construction of an accessory dwelling unit or converted to an accessory dwelling unit, the local agency shall not require that those offstreet parking spaces be replaced.

(xii) Accessory dwelling units shall not be required to provide fire sprinklers if they are not required for the primary residence. The construction of an accessory dwelling unit shall not trigger a

requirement for fire sprinklers to be installed in the ~~proposed or~~ existing primary dwelling.

(2) The ordinance shall not be considered in the application of any local ordinance, policy, or program to limit residential growth.

(3) A permit application for an accessory dwelling unit or a junior accessory dwelling unit shall be considered and approved ministerially without discretionary review or a hearing, notwithstanding Section 65901 or 65906 or any local ordinance regulating the issuance of variances or special use permits. The permitting agency shall either approve or deny the application to create an accessory dwelling unit or a junior accessory dwelling unit within 60 days from the date the local agency receives a completed application if there is an existing single-family or multifamily dwelling on the lot. If the permit application to create an accessory dwelling unit or a junior accessory dwelling unit is submitted with a permit application to create a new single-family or multifamily dwelling on the lot, the permitting agency may delay approving or denying the permit application for the accessory dwelling unit or the junior accessory dwelling unit until the permitting agency approves or denies on the permit application to create the new single-family dwelling, but the application to create the accessory dwelling unit or junior accessory dwelling unit shall be considered without discretionary review or hearing. If the applicant requests a delay, the 60-day time period shall be tolled for the period of the delay. If the local agency has not approved or denied the completed application within 60 days, the application shall be deemed approved. A local agency may charge a fee to reimburse it for costs incurred to implement this paragraph, including the costs of adopting or amending any ordinance that provides for the creation of an accessory dwelling unit.

(4) The ordinance shall require that a demolition permit for a detached garage that is to be replaced with an accessory dwelling unit be reviewed with the application for the accessory dwelling unit and issued at the same time.

(5) The ordinance shall not require, and the applicant shall not be otherwise required, to provide written notice or post a placard for the demolition of a detached garage that is to be replaced with an accessory dwelling unit, unless the property is located within an architecturally and historically significant historic district.

(6) An existing ordinance governing the creation of an accessory dwelling unit by a local agency or an accessory dwelling ordinance adopted by a local agency shall provide an approval process that includes only ministerial provisions for the approval of accessory dwelling units and shall not include any discretionary processes, provisions, or requirements for those units, except as otherwise provided in this subdivision. If a local agency has an existing accessory dwelling unit ordinance that fails to meet the requirements of this subdivision, that ordinance shall be null and void and that agency shall thereafter apply the standards established in this subdivision for the approval of accessory dwelling units, unless and until the agency adopts an ordinance that complies with this section.

(7) No other local ordinance, policy, or regulation shall be the basis for the delay or denial of a building permit or a use permit under this subdivision.

(8) (A) This subdivision establishes the maximum standards that local agencies shall use to evaluate a proposed accessory dwelling unit on a lot that includes a proposed or existing single-family dwelling. No additional standards, other than those provided in this subdivision, shall be used or imposed, except that, subject to ~~subparagraph (B),~~ *subparagraphs (B) and (C),* a local agency may require an applicant for a permit issued pursuant to this subdivision to be an ~~owner-occupant or that the property be used for rentals of terms longer than 30 days.~~ *owner-occupant.*

(B) (i) Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), a local agency shall not impose an owner-occupant requirement on an accessory dwelling unit before January 1, 2025.

(ii) Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), a local agency shall not impose an owner-occupant requirement on an accessory dwelling unit that was permitted between January 1, 2020, and January 1, 2025.

(C) Notwithstanding subparagraphs (A) and (B), a local agency may require that an accessory dwelling unit be used for rentals of terms longer than 30 days.

(9) A local agency may amend its zoning ordinance or general plan to incorporate the policies, procedures, or other provisions applicable to the creation of an accessory dwelling unit if these provisions are consistent with the limitations of this subdivision.

(10) An accessory dwelling unit that conforms to this subdivision shall be deemed to be an accessory use or an accessory building and shall not be considered to exceed the allowable density for the lot upon which it is located, and shall be deemed to be a residential use that is consistent with the existing general plan and zoning designations for the lot. The accessory dwelling unit shall not be considered in the application of any local ordinance, policy, or program to limit residential growth.

(b) When a local agency that has not adopted an ordinance governing accessory dwelling units in accordance with subdivision (a) receives an application for a permit to create an accessory dwelling unit pursuant to this subdivision, the local agency shall approve or disapprove the application ministerially without discretionary review pursuant to subdivision (a). The permitting agency shall either approve or deny the application to create an accessory dwelling unit or a junior accessory dwelling unit within 60 days from the date the local agency receives a completed application if there is an existing single-family or multifamily dwelling on the lot. If the permit application to create an accessory dwelling unit or a junior accessory dwelling unit is submitted with a permit application to create a new single-family or multifamily dwelling on the lot, the permitting agency may delay approving or denying the permit application for the accessory dwelling unit or the junior accessory dwelling unit until the permitting agency approves or denies the permit application to create the new single-family dwelling, but the application to create the accessory dwelling unit or junior accessory dwelling unit shall still be considered ministerially without discretionary review or a hearing. If the applicant requests a delay, the 60-day time period shall be tolled for the period of the delay. If the local agency has not approved or denied the completed application within 60 days, the application shall be deemed approved.

(c) (1) Subject to paragraph (2), a local agency may establish minimum and maximum unit size requirements for both attached and detached accessory dwelling units.

(2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), a local agency shall not establish by ordinance any of the following:

(A) A minimum square footage requirement for either an attached or detached accessory dwelling unit that prohibits an efficiency unit.

(B) A maximum square footage requirement for either an attached or detached accessory dwelling unit that is less than either of the following:

(i) 850 square feet.

(ii) 1,000 square feet for an accessory dwelling unit that provides more than one bedroom.

(C) Any requirement for a zoning clearance or separate zoning review or any other minimum or maximum size for an accessory dwelling unit, size based upon a percentage of the proposed or existing primary dwelling, or limits on lot coverage, floor area ratio, open space, and minimum lot size, for either attached or detached dwellings that does not permit at least an 800 square foot accessory dwelling unit that is lower than the applicable height limitation in clause (ii) of subparagraph (B) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (e) with four-foot side and rear yard setbacks to be constructed in compliance with all other local development standards.

(d) Notwithstanding any other law, and whether or not the local agency has adopted an ordinance governing accessory dwelling units in accordance with subdivision (a), all of the following shall apply:

(1) The local agency shall not impose any parking standards for an accessory dwelling unit in any of the following instances:

(A) Where the accessory dwelling unit is located within one-half mile walking distance of public transit.

(B) Where the accessory dwelling unit is located within an architecturally and historically significant historic district.

(C) Where the accessory dwelling unit is part of the proposed or existing primary residence or an accessory structure.

(D) When on-street parking permits are required but not offered to the occupant of the accessory dwelling unit.

(E) When there is a car share vehicle located within one block of the accessory dwelling unit.

~~(F) When a permit application for an accessory dwelling unit is submitted with a permit application to create a new single-family dwelling on the same lot.~~

~~(2) When a permit application for an accessory dwelling unit is submitted with a permit application to create new multifamily dwelling units, the local agency shall reduce the number of required parking spaces for the multifamily dwelling by 2 parking spaces~~

~~for each proposed detached accessory dwelling unit on the same lot.~~

(F) (1) When a permit application for an accessory dwelling unit is submitted with a permit application to create a new single-family dwelling or a new multifamily dwelling on the same lot, provided that the accessory dwelling unit or the parcel satisfies any other criteria listed in this paragraph.

~~(3)~~

(2) The local agency shall not deny an application for a permit to create an accessory dwelling unit due to the correction of nonconforming zoning ~~conditions~~ *conditions, building code violations,* or unpermitted structures that *do not present a threat to public health and safety and* are not affected by the construction of the accessory dwelling unit.

(e) (1) Notwithstanding subdivisions (a) to (d), inclusive, a local agency shall ministerially approve an application for a building permit within a residential or mixed-use zone to create any of the following:

(A) One accessory dwelling unit and one junior accessory dwelling unit per lot with a proposed or existing single-family dwelling if all of the following apply:

(i) The accessory dwelling unit or junior accessory dwelling unit is within the proposed space of a single-family dwelling or existing space of a single-family dwelling or accessory structure and may include an expansion of not more than 150 square feet beyond the same physical dimensions as the existing accessory structure. An expansion beyond the physical dimensions of the existing accessory structure shall be limited to accommodating ingress and egress.

(ii) The space has exterior access from the proposed or existing single-family dwelling.

(iii) The side and rear setbacks are sufficient for fire and safety.

(iv) The junior accessory dwelling unit complies with the requirements of Section 65852.22.

(B) One detached, new construction, accessory dwelling unit that does not exceed four-foot side and rear yard setbacks for a lot with a proposed or existing single-family dwelling. The accessory dwelling unit may be combined with a junior accessory dwelling unit described in subparagraph (A). A local agency may impose the following conditions on the accessory dwelling unit:

(i) A total floor area limitation of not more than 800 square feet.

(ii) A height limitation of 16 feet, except as follows:

(I) The local agency may impose a height limitation of not less than ~~25~~ *18* feet *on a detached accessory dwelling unit,* if the accessory dwelling unit is within one-half mile walking distance of a major transit stop or a high-quality transit corridor, as those terms are defined in Section 21155 of the Public Resources Code. *A local agency shall allow an additional 2 feet in height to accommodate a roof pitch on the accessory dwelling unit that is aligned with the roof pitch of the primary dwelling unit.*

(II) A local agency may impose a height limitation of not less than 18 feet on a detached accessory dwelling unit if the accessory dwelling unit is on a lot that has an existing multifamily, multistory dwelling.

~~(II)~~

(III) The local agency may impose a height limitation of not less than 25 feet or the height limitation in the local zoning ordinance that applies to the primary dwelling, whichever is lower, if the accessory dwelling ~~units~~ *unit* is attached to a primary dwelling.

(C) (i) Multiple accessory dwelling units within the portions of existing multifamily dwelling structures that are not used as livable space, including, but not limited to, storage rooms, boiler rooms, passageways, attics, basements, or garages, if each unit complies with state building standards for dwellings.

(ii) A local agency shall allow at least one accessory dwelling unit within an existing multifamily dwelling and shall allow up to 25 percent of the existing multifamily dwelling units.

(D) (i) Not more than two accessory dwelling units that are located on a lot that has an existing or proposed multifamily dwelling, but are detached from that multifamily dwelling and are subject to the applicable height limitation in clause (ii) of subparagraph (B) and rear yard and side setbacks of no more than 4 feet.

(ii) If the existing multifamily dwelling ~~exceeds the applicable height limitation in clause (ii) of subparagraph (B) or~~ has a rear or side setback of less than 4 feet, the local agency shall not require any modification of the existing multifamily dwelling ~~to satisfy the requirements of this subparagraph.~~ *as a condition of approving*

the application to construct an accessory dwelling unit that satisfies the requirements of this subparagraph.

~~(iii) A local agency shall not reject an application to construct an accessory dwelling unit authorized under this subparagraph on the basis that the existing multifamily dwelling exceeds the applicable height limitation in clause (ii) of subparagraph (B) or has a rear or side setback of less than 4 feet.~~

(2) A local agency shall not require, as a condition for ministerial approval of a permit application for the creation of an accessory dwelling unit or a junior accessory dwelling unit, the correction of nonconforming zoning conditions.

(3) The installation of fire sprinklers shall not be required in an accessory dwelling unit if sprinklers are not required for the primary residence. The construction of an accessory dwelling unit shall not trigger a requirement for fire sprinklers to be installed in ~~the proposed or~~ *the* existing multifamily dwelling.

(4) A local agency may require owner-occupancy for either the primary dwelling or the accessory dwelling unit on a single-family lot, subject to the requirements of paragraph (8) of subdivision (a).

(5) A local agency shall require that a rental of the accessory dwelling unit created pursuant to this subdivision be for a term longer than 30 days.

(6) A local agency may require, as part of the application for a permit to create an accessory dwelling unit connected to an onsite wastewater treatment system, a percolation test completed within the last five years, or, if the percolation test has been recertified, within the last 10 years.

(7) Notwithstanding subdivision (c) and paragraph (1) a local agency that has adopted an ordinance by July 1, 2018, providing for the approval of accessory dwelling units in multifamily dwelling structures shall ministerially consider a permit application to construct an accessory dwelling unit that is described in paragraph (1), and may impose objective standards including, but not limited to, design, development, and historic standards on said accessory dwelling units. These standards shall not include requirements on minimum lot size.

(f) (1) Fees charged for the construction of accessory dwelling units shall be determined in accordance with Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 66000) and Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 66012).

(2) An accessory dwelling unit shall not be considered by a local agency, special district, or water corporation to be a new residential use for purposes of calculating connection fees or capacity charges for utilities, including water and sewer service, unless the accessory dwelling unit was constructed with a new single-family dwelling.

(3) (A) A local agency, special district, or water corporation shall not impose any impact fee upon the development of an accessory dwelling unit less than 750 square feet. Any impact fees charged for an accessory dwelling unit of 750 square feet or more shall be charged proportionately in relation to the square footage of the primary dwelling unit.

(B) For purposes of this paragraph, "impact fee" has the same meaning as the term "fee" is defined in subdivision (b) of Section 66000, except that it also includes fees specified in Section 66477. "Impact fee" does not include any connection fee or capacity charge charged by a local agency, special district, or water corporation.

(4) For an accessory dwelling unit described in subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (e), a local agency, special district, or water corporation shall not require the applicant to install a new or separate utility connection directly between the accessory dwelling unit and the utility or impose a related connection fee or capacity charge, unless the accessory dwelling unit was constructed with a new single-family dwelling.

(5) For an accessory dwelling unit that is not described in subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (e), a local agency, special district, or water corporation may require a new or separate utility connection directly between the accessory dwelling unit and the utility. Consistent with Section 66013, the connection may be subject to a connection fee or capacity charge that shall be proportionate to the burden of the proposed accessory dwelling unit, based upon either its square feet or the number of its drainage fixture unit (DFU) values, as defined in the Uniform Plumbing Code adopted and published by the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials, upon the water or sewer system. This fee or charge shall not exceed the reasonable cost of providing this service.

(g) This section does not limit the authority of local agencies to adopt less restrictive requirements for the creation of an accessory dwelling unit.

(h) (1) A local agency shall submit a copy of the ordinance adopted pursuant to subdivision (a) to the Department of Housing and Community Development within 60 days after adoption. After adoption of an ordinance, the department may submit written findings to the local agency as to whether the ordinance complies with this section.

(2) (A) If the department finds that the local agency's ordinance does not comply with this section, the department shall notify the local agency and shall provide the local agency with a reasonable time, no longer than 30 days, to respond to the findings before taking any other action authorized by this section.

(B) The local agency shall consider the findings made by the department pursuant to subparagraph (A) and shall do one of the following:

(i) Amend the ordinance to comply with this section.

(ii) Adopt the ordinance without changes. The local agency shall include findings in its resolution adopting the ordinance that explain the reasons the local agency believes that the ordinance complies with this section despite the findings of the department.

(3) (A) If the local agency does not amend its ordinance in response to the department's findings or does not adopt a resolution with findings explaining the reason the ordinance complies with this section and addressing the department's findings, the department shall notify the local agency and may notify the Attorney General that the local agency is in violation of state law.

(B) Before notifying the Attorney General that the local agency is in violation of state law, the department may consider whether a local agency adopted an ordinance in compliance with this section between January 1, 2017, and January 1, 2020.

(i) The department may review, adopt, amend, or repeal guidelines to implement uniform standards or criteria that supplement or clarify the terms, references, and standards set forth in this section. The guidelines adopted pursuant to this subdivision are not subject to Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2.

(j) As used in this section, the following terms mean:

(1) "Accessory dwelling unit" means an attached or a detached residential dwelling unit that provides complete independent living facilities for one or more persons and is located on a lot with a proposed or existing primary residence. It shall include permanent provisions for living, sleeping, eating, cooking, and sanitation on the same parcel as the single-family or multifamily dwelling is or will be situated. An accessory dwelling unit also includes the following:

(A) An efficiency unit.

(B) A manufactured home, as defined in Section 18007 of the Health and Safety Code.

(2) "Accessory structure" means a structure that is accessory and incidental to a dwelling located on the same lot.

(3) "Efficiency unit" has the same meaning as defined in Section 17958.1 of the Health and Safety Code.

(4) "Living area" means the interior habitable area of a dwelling unit, including basements and attics, but does not include a garage or any accessory structure.

(5) "Local agency" means a city, county, or city and county, whether general law or chartered.

(6) "Nonconforming zoning condition" means a physical improvement on a property that does not conform with current zoning standards.

(7) "Objective standards" means standards that involve no personal or subjective judgment by a public official and are uniformly verifiable by reference to an external and uniform benchmark or criterion available and knowable by both the development applicant or proponent and the public official prior to submittal.

(8) "Passageway" means a pathway that is unobstructed clear to the sky and extends from a street to one entrance of the accessory dwelling unit.

(9) "Proposed dwelling" means a dwelling that is the subject of a permit application and that meets the requirements for permitting.

(10) "Public transit" means a location, including, but not limited to, a bus stop or train station, where the public may access buses, trains, subways, and other forms of transportation that charge set fares, run on fixed routes, and are available to the public.

(11) "Tandem parking" means that two or more automobiles are parked on a driveway or in any other location on a lot, lined up behind one another.

(k) A local agency shall not issue a certificate of occupancy for an accessory dwelling unit before the local agency issues a certificate of occupancy for the primary dwelling.

(*l*) Nothing in this section shall be construed to supersede or in any way alter or lessen the effect or application of the California Coastal Act of 1976 (Division 20 (commencing with Section 30000) of the Public Resources Code), except that the local government shall not be required to hold public hearings for coastal development permit applications for accessory dwelling units.

(m) A local agency may count an accessory dwelling unit for purposes of identifying adequate sites for housing, as specified in subdivision (a) of Section 65583.1, subject to authorization by the department and compliance with this division.

(n) In enforcing building standards pursuant to Article 1 (commencing with Section 17960) of Chapter 5 of Part 1.5 of Division 13 of the Health and Safety Code for an accessory dwelling unit described in paragraph (1) or ~~(2) below or the primary dwelling for one of those units,~~ *(2)*, a local agency, upon request of an owner of an accessory dwelling unit for a delay in enforcement, shall delay enforcement of a building standard, subject to compliance with Section 17980.12 of the Health and Safety Code:

(1) The accessory dwelling unit was built before January 1, 2020.

(2) The accessory dwelling unit was built on or after January 1, 2020, in a local jurisdiction that, at the time the accessory dwelling unit was built, had a noncompliant accessory dwelling unit ordinance, but the ordinance is compliant at the time the request is made.

SEC. 3. Section 65852.2 of the Government Code, as amended by Section 2 of Chapter 343 of the Statutes of 2021, is repealed.

SEC. 4. Section 65852.22 of the Government Code is amended to read:

65852.22. (a) Notwithstanding Section 65852.2, a local agency may, by ordinance, provide for the creation of junior accessory dwelling units in single-family residential zones. The ordinance

may require a permit to be obtained for the creation of a junior accessory dwelling unit, and shall do all of the following:

(1) Limit the number of junior accessory dwelling units to one per residential lot zoned for single-family residences with a single-family residence built, or proposed to be built, on the lot.

(2) Require owner-occupancy in the single family residence in which the junior accessory dwelling unit will be permitted. The owner may reside in either the remaining portion of the structure or the newly created junior accessory dwelling unit. Owner-occupancy shall not be required if the owner is another governmental agency, land trust, or housing organization.

(3) Require the recordation of a deed restriction, which shall run with the land, shall be filed with the permitting agency, and shall include both of the following:

(A) A prohibition on the sale of the junior accessory dwelling unit separate from the sale of the single-family residence, including a statement that the deed restriction may be enforced against future purchasers.

(B) A restriction on the size and attributes of the junior accessory dwelling unit that conforms with this section.

(4) Require a permitted junior accessory dwelling unit to be constructed within the walls of the proposed or existing single-family ~~residence or attached to a detached accessory dwelling unit.~~ *residence.* For purposes of this paragraph, enclosed uses within the residence, such as attached garages, are considered a part of the proposed or existing single-family residence.

(5) (A) Require a permitted junior accessory dwelling unit to include a separate entrance from the main entrance to the proposed or existing single-family residence or attached to a detached accessory dwelling unit.

(B) If a permitted junior accessory dwelling unit does not include a separate bathroom, the permitted junior accessory dwelling unit shall include a separate entrance from the main entrance to the structure, with an interior entry to the main living area.

(6) Require the permitted junior accessory dwelling unit to include an efficiency kitchen, which shall include all of the following:

(A) A cooking facility with appliances.

(B) A food preparation counter and storage cabinets that are of reasonable size in relation to the size of the junior accessory dwelling unit.

(b) (1) An ordinance shall not require additional parking as a condition to grant a permit.

(2) This subdivision shall not be interpreted to prohibit the requirement of an inspection, including the imposition of a fee for that inspection, to determine if the junior accessory dwelling unit complies with applicable building standards.

(c) An application for a permit pursuant to this section shall, notwithstanding Section 65901 or 65906 or any local ordinance regulating the issuance of variances or special use permits, be considered ministerially, without discretionary review or a hearing. The permitting agency shall either approve or deny the application to create a junior accessory dwelling unit within 60 days from the date the local agency receives a completed application if there is an existing single-family dwelling on the lot. If the permit application to create a junior accessory dwelling unit is submitted with a permit application to create a new single-family dwelling on the lot, the permitting agency may delay approving or denying the permit application for the junior accessory dwelling unit until the permitting agency approves or denies the permit application to create the new single-family dwelling, but the application to create the junior accessory dwelling unit shall still be considered ministerially without discretionary review or a hearing. If the applicant requests a delay, the 60-day time period shall be tolled for the period of the delay. A local agency may charge a fee to reimburse the local agency for costs incurred in connection with the issuance of a permit pursuant to this section.

(d) A local agency shall not deny an application for a permit to create a junior accessory dwelling unit pursuant to this section due to the correction of nonconforming zoning ~~conditions~~ *conditions, building code violations,* or unpermitted structures *that do not present a threat to public health and safety and* that are not affected by the construction of the junior accessory dwelling unit.

(e) For purposes of any fire or life protection ordinance or regulation, a junior accessory dwelling unit shall not be considered a separate or new dwelling unit. This section shall not be construed to prohibit a city, county, city and county, or other local public entity from adopting an ordinance or regulation relating to fire and

life protection requirements within a single-family residence that contains a junior accessory dwelling unit so long as the ordinance or regulation applies uniformly to all single-family residences within the zone regardless of whether the single-family residence includes a junior accessory dwelling unit or not.

(f) For purposes of providing service for water, sewer, or power, including a connection fee, a junior accessory dwelling unit shall not be considered a separate or new dwelling unit.

(g) This section shall not be construed to prohibit a local agency from adopting an ordinance or regulation related to a service or a connection fee for water, sewer, or power, that applies to a single-family residence that contains a junior accessory dwelling unit, so long as that ordinance or regulation applies uniformly to all single-family residences regardless of whether the single-family residence includes a junior accessory dwelling unit.

(h) If a local agency has not adopted a local ordinance pursuant to this section, the local agency shall ministerially approve a permit to construct a junior accessory dwelling unit that satisfies the requirements set forth in subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (e) of Section 65852.2 and the requirements of this section.

(i) For purposes of this section, the following terms have the following meanings:

(1) "Junior accessory dwelling unit" means a unit that is no more than 500 square feet in size and contained entirely within a single-family residence. A junior accessory dwelling unit may include separate sanitation facilities, or may share sanitation facilities with the existing structure.

(2) "Local agency" means a city, county, or city and county, whether general law or chartered.

SEC. 5. Section 65852.23 is added to the Government Code, to read:

65852.23. (a) Notwithstanding any other law, and except as otherwise provided in subdivision (b), a local agency shall not deny a permit for an unpermitted accessory dwelling unit that was constructed before January 1, 2018, due to either of the following:

(1) The accessory dwelling unit is in violation of building standards pursuant to Article 1 (commencing with Section 17960) of Chapter 5 of Part 1.5 of Division 13 of the Health and Safety Code.

(2) The accessory dwelling unit does not comply with Section 65852.2 or any local ordinance regulating accessory dwelling units.

(b) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), a local agency may deny a permit for an accessory dwelling unit subject to subdivision (a) if the local agency makes a finding that correcting the violation is necessary to protect the health and safety of the public or occupants of the structure.

(c) The section shall not apply to a building that is deem substandard pursuant to Section 17920.3 of the Health and Safety Code.

SEC. 6. Section 17980.12 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:

17980.12. (a) (1) An enforcement agency, until January 1, 2030, that issues to an owner of an accessory dwelling unit described in subparagraph (A) or (B) below, a notice to correct a violation of any provision of any building standard pursuant to this part shall include in that notice a statement that the owner of the unit has a right to request a delay in enforcement pursuant to this subdivision:

(A) The accessory dwelling unit was built before January 1, 2020.

(B) The accessory dwelling unit was built on or after January 1, 2020, in a local jurisdiction that, at the time the accessory dwelling unit was built, had a noncompliant accessory dwelling unit ordinance, but the ordinance is compliant at the time the request is made.

(2) The owner of an accessory dwelling unit that receives a notice to correct violations or abate nuisances as described in paragraph (1) may, in the form and manner prescribed by the enforcement agency, submit an application to the enforcement agency requesting that enforcement of the violation be delayed for five years on the basis that correcting the violation is not necessary to protect health and safety.

~~(3) A delay in enforcement granted for an accessory dwelling unit, as described in paragraph (2), shall also apply to a violation of any provision of any building standard that applies to the primary dwelling of the accessory dwelling unit, provided that correcting the violation is not necessary to protect health and safety.~~

(3) A local agency shall not require, as a condition for ministerial approval of a permit application for the creation of an

accessory dwelling unit or a junior accessory dwelling unit, the correction of a violation on the primary dwelling unit, provided that correcting the violation is not necessary to protect health and safety.

(4) The enforcement agency shall grant an application described in paragraph (2) if the enforcement agency determines that correcting the violation is not necessary to protect health and safety. In making this determination, the enforcement agency shall consult with the entity responsible for enforcement of building standards and other regulations of the State Fire Marshal pursuant to Section 13146.

(5) The enforcement agency shall not approve any applications pursuant to this section on or after January 1, 2030. However, any delay that was approved by the enforcement agency before January 1, 2030, shall be valid for the full term of the delay that was approved at the time of the initial approval of the application pursuant to paragraph (4).

(b) For purposes of this section, "accessory dwelling unit" has the same meaning as defined in Section 65852.2.

(c) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2035, and as of that date is repealed.

SEC. 7. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because a local agency or school district has the authority to levy service charges, fees, or assessments sufficient to pay for the program or level of service mandated by this act, within the meaning of Section 17556 of the Government Code.

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