

Government Code Section 25539.4

a) The Legislature recognizes that real property of counties can be utilized, in accordance with a county's best interests, to provide housing affordable to persons or families of low or moderate income. Therefore, notwithstanding any other provision of law, whenever the board of supervisors determines that any real property or interest therein owned, or to be purchased, by the county can be used to provide housing affordable to persons and families of low or moderate income, as defined by [Section 50093 of the Health and Safety Code](#) or as defined by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development or its successors, and that this use is in the county's best interests, the county may sell, lease, exchange, quitclaim, convey, or otherwise dispose of the real property or interest therein at less than fair market value, or purchase an interest in the real property, to provide that affordable housing without complying with other provisions of this article.

(b) Not less than 80 percent of the area of any parcel of property disposed of pursuant to the provisions of this section shall be used for the development of housing.

(c) Not less than 40 percent of the total number of those housing units developed on any parcel pursuant to this section shall be affordable to households whose incomes are equal to or less than 75 percent of the maximum income of lower income households, and at least half of which shall be affordable to very low income households.

(d) Dwelling units produced for persons and families of low or moderate income under this section shall be restricted by regulatory agreement to remain continually affordable to those persons and families for the longest feasible time, but not less than 30 years, pursuant to a method prescribed by the county.

(e) The regulatory agreement shall contain a provision making the covenants and conditions of the agreement binding upon successors in interest of the housing sponsor. The regulatory agreement shall be recorded in the office of the county recorder of the county in which the housing development is located. The regulatory agreement shall be recorded in the grantor-grantee index to the name of the property owner as grantor and to the name of the county as grantee.

(f) The definitions of "persons and families of low and moderate income," "lower income households," and "very low income households" set forth in [Sections 50079.5](#) , [50093](#) , and [50105 of the Health and Safety Code](#) shall apply to this section.

Health and Safety Code Section 50079.5.

(a) "Lower income households" means persons and families whose income does not exceed the qualifying limits for lower income families as established and amended from time to time pursuant to Section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937. The limits shall be published by the department in the California Code of Regulations as soon as possible after adoption by the Secretary of Housing and

Urban Development. In the event the federal standards are discontinued, the department shall, by regulation, establish income limits for lower income households for all geographic areas of the state at 80 percent of area median income, adjusted for family size and revised annually.

(b) "Lower income households" includes very low income households, as defined in Section 50105, and extremely low income households, as defined in Section 50106. The addition of this subdivision does not constitute a change in, but is declaratory of, existing law.

(c) As used in this section, "area median income" means the median family income of a geographic area of the state.

Health and Safety Code Section 50093.

"Persons and families of low or moderate income" means persons and families whose income does not exceed 120 percent of area median income, adjusted for family size by the department in accordance with adjustment factors adopted and amended from time to time by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development pursuant to Section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937. However, the agency and the department jointly, or either acting with the concurrence of the Secretary of Business, Consumer Services and Housing, may permit the agency to use higher income limitations in designated geographic areas of the state, upon a determination that 120 percent of the median income in the particular geographic area is too low to qualify a substantial number of persons and families of low or moderate income who can afford rental or home purchase of housing financed pursuant to Part 3 (commencing with Section 50900) without subsidy.

"Persons and families of low or moderate income" includes very low income households, as defined in Section 50105, extremely low income households, as defined in Section 50106, and lower income households as defined in Section 50079.5, and includes persons and families of extremely low income, persons and families of very low income, persons and families of low income, persons and families of moderate income, and middle-income families. As used in this division:

(a) "Persons and families of low income" or "persons of low income" means persons or families who are eligible for financial assistance specifically provided by a governmental agency for the benefit of occupants of housing financed pursuant to this division.

(b) "Persons and families of moderate income" or "middle-income families" means persons and families of low or moderate income whose income exceeds the income limit for lower income households.

(c) "Persons and families of median income" means persons and families whose income does not exceed the area median income, as adjusted by the department for family size in accordance with adjustment factors adopted and amended from time to time by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development pursuant to Section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937.

As used in this section, "area median income" means the median family income of a geographic area of the state, as annually estimated by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development pursuant to Section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937. In the event these federal determinations of area median income are discontinued, the department shall establish and publish as regulations income limits for persons and families of median income for all geographic areas of the state at 100 percent of area median income, and for persons and families of low or moderate income for all geographic areas of the state at 120 percent of area median income. These income limits shall be adjusted for family size and shall be revised annually.

For purposes of this section, the department shall file, with the Office of Administrative Law, any changes in area median income and income limits determined by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, together with any consequent changes in other derivative income limits determined by the department pursuant to this section. These filings shall not be subject to Article 5 (commencing with Section 11346) or Article 6 (commencing with Section 11349) of Chapter 3.5 of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code, but shall be effective upon filing with the Office of Administrative Law and shall be published as soon as possible in the California Regulatory Code Supplement and the California Code of Regulations.

The department shall establish and publish a general definition of income, including inclusions, exclusions, and allowances, for qualifying persons under the income limits of this section and Sections 50079.5, 50105, and 50106 to be used where no other federal or state definitions of income apply. This definition need not be established by regulation.

Nothing in this division shall prevent the agency or the department from adopting separate family size adjustment factors or programmatic definitions of income to qualify households, persons, and families for programs of the agency or department, as the case may be.

Health and Safety Code Section 50105.

(a) "Very low income households" means persons and families whose incomes do not exceed the qualifying limits for very low income families as established and amended from time to time pursuant to Section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937. These qualifying limits shall be published by the department in the California Code of Regulations as soon as possible after adoption by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development. In the event the federal standards are discontinued, the department shall, by regulation, establish income limits for very low income households for all geographic areas of the state at 50 percent of area median income, adjusted for family size and revised annually.

(b) "Very low income households" includes extremely low income households, as defined in Section 50106. The addition of this subdivision does not constitute a change in, but is declaratory of, existing law.

(c) As used in this section, "area median income" means the median family income of a geographic area of the state.