

Hercules Capital, Inc.
400 Hamilton Avenue, Suite 310
Palo Alto, CA 94301

September 6, 2017

VIA EDGAR

United States Securities and Exchange Commission
Division of Investment Management
100 F Street, N.E.
Washington, DC 20549
Attn: Christina DiAngelo Fetting/Trace Rakestraw

Re: Hercules Capital, Inc.
Registration Statement on Form N-2
File Number: 333-214767

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Pursuant to Rule 461 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, Hercules Capital, Inc., a Maryland corporation (the "Company"), respectfully requests acceleration of the effective date of pre-effective amendment no. 2 to its Registration Statement on Form N-2 (File No. 333-214767) (the "Registration Statement") so that such Registration Statement may be declared effective at 9:00 a.m. EST on September 7, 2017, or as soon as practicable thereafter.

We request that we be notified of such effectiveness by a telephone call to William Bielefeld of Dechert LLP at (202) 261-3386, and that such effectiveness also be confirmed in writing.

Very truly yours,

Hercules Capital, Inc.

By: /s/ Mark R. Harris

Name: Mark R. Harris

Title: Chief Financial Officer/Chief
Accounting Officer