

Document in Opposition to
Proposed Boarding House Ordinance:
Case Number CPC-2009-800-CA and
City Council File Number 07-34-27
and In Support of
QUALITY SOBER LIVING HOMES

9H
LA COUNCIL
11-0262
 Page 1

We the undersigned oppose Ordinance CPC-2009-800-CA – Council File 07-34-27 as currently constituted, and find it to be discriminatory against Sober Living Homes and all group homes for persons with disabilities and to the families that such home help to create and maintain. We wish to bring to the attention of the members of the City Council the following:

Sober living homes and other group homes provide housing and supportive family environments and resources to people in recovery from addiction, with mental illness and other disabilities. Sober living has been an integral, clinical part of recovery for over 75 years.

As presently constituted, this ordinance will have a disparate impact on groups of disabled persons seeking to live with others like them in single family housing of “families of disabled persons living together in mutual support (Sober Living).”. As residents of this City we are concerned that this ordinance puts the City at legal risk and, therefore, great financial risk.

This City cannot legally justify through state and federal case law the proposed redefinition of family, single housekeeping unit, and boarding house which this ordinance proposes that will severely restrict not only how persons with disabilities may live but how any group of unrelated people who wish to live together as a family can live together in low density residential areas, (zones R1, R2, RD). Furthermore, it should not be in the purview of this city to dictate how shared housing can be paid for, such as through multiple leases or other individual financial arrangements.

We ask you to recognize and value the many benefits sober living homes can and already have provided to the City including; reduced crime, reduced homelessness, reduced dependency on City and other public services, reduced family and neighborhood violence and other benefits. We also recognize that these benefits, unlike other social service programs, are provided at virtually no cost to the City and its residents.

We continue to challenge the City to provide any objective jurisdiction-wide objective evidence that such homes are a threat to public health and safety and more than other types of residences. NIMBY complaints of neighbors are politically compelling for elected officials but in no way constitute legitimate data.

By affixing our names to this document, we implore the City of Los Angeles to reject the proposed ordinance as presently constituted and to provide reasonable access to treatment and recovery for all families.

We the undersigned petitioners:

Your Name (Please Print or Write Legibly)	City/ZIP Code	Your Signature
1 Ashley Smith	San Pedro, 90731	Ashley Smith
2 Tony Malow	San Pedro 90731	Tony Malow
3 Juan Ortiz	San Pedro 90731	Juan Ortiz
4 Taylor Graves	San Pedro 90731	Taylor Graves
5 Schawon Sigler	TORRANCE 90501	Schawon Sigler
6 Joseph Bacoud	San Pedro 90731	Joseph Bacoud
7 Kenneth Piscopa	San Pedro 90731	Kenneth Piscopa
8 Wendy Joshua Lewis	Los Angeles 91170	Wendy Lewis
9 Linda Teffeller	Torrance, 90731	Linda Teffeller
10 Desiree Pritchard	San Pedro, CA 90731	Desiree Pritchard

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11	Roger Jules	San Pedro 90731	Roger Jules
12	RONALD MARTINEZ	SAN PEDRO 90731	Ronald Martinez
13	PAMELA SURAPURU	SAN PEDRO 90731	Pamela Surapur
14	Robert Preston	SAN PEDRO 90731	Robert Preston
15	CALIFANO, ISADORA	SAN PEDRO 90731	Isadora Califano
16	JC SEPESARIA	SAN PEDRO	JC Sepesaria
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