

December 17, 2012

Regarding: Council File 11-0262

Dear Honorable Members of the Los Angeles City Council:

The argument that setting standards for community care facilities discriminates against the disabled is analogous to the argument that nineteenth-century sweatshop owners used to justify the deplorable conditions in factories: If the government passes laws requiring us to reduce overcrowding and to adhere to guidelines for health and safety, workers will lose their jobs. Except now, the argument is that if the government passes such regulations, the disabled will lose their housing.

The reality is that the Community Care Facilities Ordinance will help protect the disabled from the abuses of some unscrupulous landlords who otherwise stand to profit from crowding as many adults as possible into homes that were never intended to accommodate such large numbers of residents. A "nuisance abatement program" would be wholly inadequate to address this serious problem.

I urge you to vote in favor of the Community Care Facilities Ordinance. It is a fair, reasonable, and well-thought-out piece of legislation that is long overdue.

Sincerely,

Terrence Walker
Los Angeles

Date: 12/18/12
Submitted by via email ~~Committee~~
Council File No: 11-0262
Item No.: N/A
Deputy: Comm from Public