



Planning and Land Use Management Committee
Los Angeles City Hall
200 North Spring Street, Room 475
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Members: Councilmember Ed P. Reyes, Chair
Councilmember Jose Huizar
Councilmember Mitchell Englander

Date: 3/20/12
Submitted in PLUM Committee
Council File No: 11-0262
Item No: 1
Deputy: Comm. from Public

Re: Oppose File 11-0262, Proposed Community-Care Licensing Ordinance

Dear Councilmembers,

The Independent Living Center of Southern California (ILCSC) urges you to oppose File 11-0262, the proposed Community-Care Licensing Ordinance, due to its impact on the 300,000 or more persons with disabilities in the City of Los Angeles.

We cite the following reasons...

The ILCSC has provided services to over 6,000 persons with disabilities yearly in the San Fernando Valley for over 37 years.

The client with a disability routinely receives \$830 a month. Affordable and accessible housing on this budget is next to impossible to find. Section 8 housing has a 10 year waiting list. Landlords want the client to earn 3 times the rent in income.

How does the ILCSC assist these clients?

- We assist clients in finding housing with two living together. Each requiring a written rental agreement for the Social Security Administration, to assure that no one else is paying their rent.
- We assist in finding housing through renting a room in another person's house.
- On occasion, we assist in finding a room for rent without a kitchen.
- HUD buildings, when they are open in our area.

The Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988 makes it illegal for local zoning ordinances to discriminate against persons with disabilities by decreasing the availability of housing for, or having a disparate negative impact on people protected by the Act. We feel that this ordinance will do both in regard to our clients. In addition, HUD rules require recipients of federal financial assistance "affirmatively further fair housing." This ordinance is contrary to that obligation.

Again, we urge you to reject this proposed ordinance. It will have unintended consequences of discriminating against people with disabilities.

Sincerely,

Norma Jean Vescovo *Kurt Baldwin*

Norma Jean Vescovo, CEO

Kurt Baldwin, Systems Advocacy Coord.

Phone: (818) 785-6934 Website: www.ilcsc.org