

Honorable Ed Reyes,
Chair, Councilmember, 1st District

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

Dear Councilmember Ed Reyes

I am writing to you with regard to the item 11-0262, scheduled for Planning and Land Use Committee meeting on March, 20, 2012.

This ordinance will shut down hundreds of sober livings and transitional housing centers in Los Angeles. In the result, many recuperating individuals will be back on the streets. There are at-risk youth, veterans, disabled and otherwise vulnerable community members that the government already turned away.

As a mother of a son with addiction problems, I require help to resolve this issue in favor of vulnerable community members.

I require a legal action to stop this motion. We as people have to stop discrimination against mentally ill people. According to DSM-IV-TR (American Psychiatric Association, 2000) Substance Dependence or Addiction is Mental Disease which require long comprehensive treatment :detoxification, rehabilitation and sober living housing as long as necessary. Following those steps can help a person with addiction problems to recover. According to Americans with Disabilities Act(ADA)(P.L.101-336),public and private businesses, state and local government agencies, private entities offering public accommodations and services, transportation and utilities are required to comply with the law. Title II prohibits discrimination by state and local government agencies.

Our City Council should show more concerns about opening multiple "Medical Marijuana" stores to spread addiction disease like a virus, to get more young people mentally ill. Medical Marijuana is a gateway drug that introducing young people to other more stronger drugs. Medical Marijuana should be accessible strictly for really physically ill people with HIV, Cancer, Chemotherapy, Severe Arthritis only. However, Medical Marijuana doctors sell illegal prescriptions that able teenagers to get Marijuana in order to get high not because they have any physical illnesses.

The City Council does not show any concerns about allowing legal sales for Bath Salt at Tobacco Stores which is equal to Crystal Meths/Cocaine. The City Council does not show any concerns about allowing to sell alcohol in every possible store. City Council wants to put more restrictions on sober living houses, shelters where recovery process began. City Council wants thousands people be on the streets and in jails instead giving them another chance to recover and start to lead a responsible life. We as voters have to stop genocide against young generation.

Liberty House is staying in business for such a long time because it has positive outcomes. Liberty House save many young people lives. Liberty House is re-teaching young people with addiction problems to lead responsible life and be accountable for their actions and decisions. Liberty House gives me a last hope for my son's recovery. City Council wants to take my hope away. Shame on such a decision.

With all respect to the City Council Committee, I am strongly opposing CF 11-0262" Community Care Facilities Ordinance".

Sincerely,


Larisa Melamed

03-20-2012 Los Angeles

Preschool Teacher