

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations, or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state, or federal governmental body or agency must first have been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, the need for affordable and permanent supportive housing for the homeless is dire in the City of Los Angeles as well as statewide; and

WHEREAS, according to the 2015 Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) Homeless Count, there are 25,686 homeless individuals living in the City of Los Angeles; and

WHEREAS, the 2015 LAHSA Homeless Count notes that 8,163 individuals or almost 32% of the homeless population suffers a form of mental illness; and

WHEREAS, the 2015 LAHSA Homeless Count also notes that 6,255 individuals or 24% of the homeless population suffers from substance abuse issues; and

WHEREAS, since the dissolution of the California redevelopment agencies, the City's available resources to fund affordable housing projects has decreased by approximately \$50 million; and

WHEREAS, any solution to the homelessness crisis must involve the creation of permanent supportive housing; and

WHEREAS, both the City and County have recently committed to identifying a significant amount of funding to house our homeless population; and

WHEREAS, the County approved a Motion (Kuehl-Ridley Thomas) which introduces the exploration of leveraging Mental Health Services Act funds and other sources to incrementally fund up to \$100 million by FY 2020-21 in an Affordable Housing Programs fund; and

WHEREAS, in November 2004, California voters passed Proposition 63, the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA), authored by former California Senate President Pro Tem Darrell Steinberg, which provides a permanent revenue stream for mental health services and permanent supportive housing by placing a 1% tax on the adjusted gross income of Californians earning \$1 million or more; and

WHEREAS, the California Department of Health Care Services is mandated by the MHSA to continually revise program elements in order to reflect what is learned about the most effective prevention and intervention programs for children, adults and seniors; and

WHEREAS, all provisions of the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) may be amended by 2/3rd of the California State Legislature to further the intent of the act

WHEREAS, the State should explore all fiscal options to enhance the use of MHSA funds for permanent supportive housing including, but not limited to, issuing State bonds or a general fund allocation:

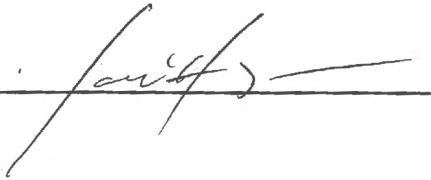
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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2015-2016 State Legislative Program SUPPORT/SPONSORSHIP of any legislation to provide additional funds for Permanent Supportive Housing in Cities and Counties across California, including the potential to reprogram current Mental Health Services Act funds, a general fund increase for this purpose, the feasibility of issuing bonds from current revenue in use by the MHSA act or other new or additional existing source of funds.

PRESENTED BY: 
MITCH O'FARRELL
Councilmember, 13th District

PRESENTED BY: 
HERB J. WESSON, JR.
Councilmember, 10th District

SECONDED BY: 



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