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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 have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, homelessness is a significant and debilitating issue for an immense number of individuals, families, and communities across California; and

WHEREAS, homelessness is now widely recognized as a transcendent socio-political concern, as evidenced by the State's Budget including \$2 billion in bonds to develop housing for the mentally ill, San Francisco's creation of a Department to End Homelessness, and the development of City and County of Los Angeles strategic plans to reduce and prevent homelessness; and

WHEREAS, the League of California Cities and the California State Association of Counties have established working groups representing both large and small jurisdictions across the State to address homelessness; and

WHEREAS, there are now an estimated 115,000 homeless individuals in California, more than any other state, a population that continues to grow as observed with recent increases in the cities of San Francisco, Fresno, Sacramento, and San Diego; and

WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles has also experienced a growth in its homeless population which has risen to approximately 28,000, an 11% rise from last year, and that experts advise that 13,000 people become homeless in Los Angeles County every month; and

WHEREAS, evidence shows that stabilizing the chronically homeless by providing housing can save taxpayer money by reducing and preventing use of costly municipal services; and

WHEREAS, despite the magnitude of the problem and the inability of local governments to address this issue within their normal operating budgets, many municipalities are attempting to identify funds to help solve homelessness; and

WHEREAS, HR 56 (Santiago) has been adopted by the Assembly and SR 84 (Hall) is pending before the State Senate and requests the Governor to declare a Homeless State of Emergency in California; and

WHEREAS, these resolutions were introduced to affirm to the Governor, despite his previous denials to declare a homeless state of emergency, that homelessness has risen to the level where State intervention is appropriate to provide additional assistance to local governments who have been and are doing all they can to address this issue but require assistance on a larger scale, and

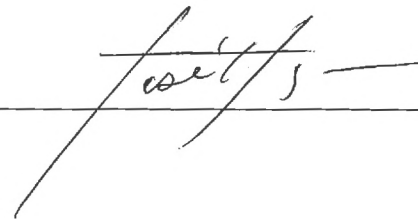


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WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles should support HR 56, SR84 and any other action that urges the Governor to declare a homeless State of Emergency in order to ensure that every person has a home;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby include in its 2015-2016 State Legislative Program SUPPORT for HR 56 (Santiago), SR 84 (Hall) and any other action that urges the Governor to declare a homeless State of Emergency in order to ensure that every person has a home.

PRESENTED BY:   
Paul Koretz  
Councilmember, 5<sup>th</sup> District

SECONDED BY: 

**ORIGINAL**