

ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

An ordinance amending Sections 12.80 and 12.81 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) to make technical amendments to align with emergency shelter regulations in state law (Government Code Section 8698 et seq.).

**THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:**

Sec. 1. Section 12.80 of Article 2 of Chapter 1 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code is amended to read as follows:

**SEC. 12.80. HOMELESS SHELTERS – EMERGENCIES – GOVERNMENT OWNED AND LEASED PROPERTY.**

Notwithstanding any provisions of this article to the contrary, during any period for which the Mayor and/or the City Council have declared a shelter crisis within the meaning of Government Code Sections 8698, et seq., a shelter for the homeless (as defined in Section [12.03](#) of this Code) may be established and operated on property owned or leased by the City of Los Angeles in any zone as a matter of right without regard to the number of beds or number of persons served. Facilities used as a shelter for the homeless under this section must comply with the minimum building regulations set forth in Section [91.8605](#) of this Code, as it is currently written or as it may be amended in the future. If the lot on which any such shelter is located does not have sufficient area to provide the number of parking spaces required by Section [12.21](#) A.4.(w) of this Code, then the number of spaces required shall be the number for which adequate area exists. If insufficient area for any parking spaces exists on the lot, no spaces shall be required.

~~Any declaration of a shelter crisis made pursuant to Government Code Sections 8698, et seq., shall not exceed a period of 365 days from the date of declaration. The City Council may renew a shelter crisis declaration made pursuant to Government Code Sections 8698, et seq., on an annual basis.~~

Sec. 2. Section 12.81 of Article 2 of Chapter 1 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code is amended to read as follows:

**SEC. 12.81. HOMELESS SHELTERS – EMERGENCIES – CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS.**

A. Notwithstanding any provisions of this article to the contrary, during any period for which the Mayor and/or the City Council have declared a shelter crisis within the meaning of Government Code Sections 8698, et seq., a shelter for the homeless (as defined in Section [12.03](#) of this Code) may be established and operated in the R3, RAS3, R4, RAS4, R5, C2, C4, C5, CM, M1, M2 and M3 zones without regard to the number of beds or number of persons served, if the shelter is operated by a religious institution or a non-profit, charitable organization and the shelter is located on property owned or leased by that institution or organization. If the lot on which any such shelter is located does not have sufficient area to provide the number of parking spaces required by Section [12.21](#) A.4.(w) of this Code, then the number of spaces required shall be the number for which adequate area exists. If insufficient area for any parking spaces exists on the lot, no spaces shall be required. Unreinforced masonry and/or non-ductile concrete buildings shall not be used as shelters for the homeless.

~~Any declaration of a shelter crisis made pursuant to Government Code Sections 8698, et seq., shall not exceed a period of 365 days from the date of declaration. The City Council may renew a shelter crisis declaration made pursuant to Government Code Sections 8698, et seq., on an annual basis.~~

**B. Requirements.**

1. Providers shall register with the City of Los Angeles by submitting "Cold/Wet Weather Temporary Shelter Application" online via the City's website ([www.lacity.org](http://www.lacity.org)); and

2. Providers shall comply with the "Cold/Wet Weather Temporary Shelter" requirements promulgated by the Los Angeles Fire Departments Fire Prevention and Public Safety Bureau; and

3. Providers shall provide written notification to the owners of properties abutting the subject property, as well as to any school located within 500 feet of the subject property, prior to operating a shelter for the homeless on the subject property.

4. Providers shall comply with all local, state and federal requirements that apply to the permitted use of their property while operating a shelter for the homeless pursuant to this section.

**Sec. 3. URGENCY CLAUSE.** The City finds and declares that this ordinance is required for the immediate protection of the public peace, health, and safety for the following reasons: The measures contained in the ordinance are designed to protect those without shelter from the life-threatening impacts related to homelessness, including but not limited to exposure to extreme temperatures, weather conditions, and communicable diseases. The City of Los Angeles is already in the midst of a shelter crisis, with the City Council having formally declared a shelter crisis under California Government Code Section 8698, based on a finding that a significant number of homeless people in Los Angeles are without the ability to obtain shelter, resulting in a threat to their health and safety, and the homeless population continues to grow. In order to address the threat to the health and safety of the homeless there must be an increase in the number of shelters available to the homeless to find refuge. For all of these reasons, this ordinance shall become effective upon publication pursuant to Section 253 of the Los Angeles City Charter.