

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 08/21/2019 08:55 AM

Council File No: 19-0602-S1

Comments for Public Posting: Very few of the homeless are abiding by the Jones settlement. They do not break down their tents from 6am - 9pm and many of them block access to the sidewalks to both pedestrians and the disabled. 41.18 is the only tool the police have at their disposal and even then, they are afraid to enforce it for fear of the city being sued. This is not about criminalizing the homeless, it's about the homeless following the rule that were agreed to by both side in the settlement. The citations that are handled out are because people are not following the agreed upon rules. Changing 41.18 is going to exacerbate the camping problem, not solve it. If the homeless are allowed to be on the sidewalks without restrictions, then more encampments will follow.

Communication from Public

Name: Chris Homandberg

Date Submitted: 08/21/2019 09:25 AM

Council File No: 19-0602-S1

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Council Members, I ask that you consider deletion of LAMC 41.18(d), rather than amend the subsection to narrowly conform to Constitutional requirements. In 2018, at least 1,424 unhoused people were cited under LAMC 41.18d for sitting on the sidewalk in the City of Los Angeles. Reauthorizing laws that criminalize homelessness like 41.18d promote the discredited idea that homelessness is driven by criminality, and undermine efforts to site and build much needed shelters and housing. Criminalizing homelessness solves nothing, is counterproductive, and makes it harder for people to escape homelessness. I urge the Council to delete 41.18(d) outright and to turn our City's resources to solutions instead of unjust laws that simply entrench poverty and criminalize the unhoused. Chris Homandberg

Communication from Public

Name: Linda

Date Submitted: 08/21/2019 10:21 AM

Council File No: 19-0602-S1

Comments for Public Posting: How can the City Council continue to demonize and harass homeless people. Until something is done to help homeless individuals find decent housing, quality mental health services, and jobs if they wish. The law that was passed that people cannot live in their vehicles, or exist on the sidewalks and streets is cruel to the most powerless in our city. Shame on the City council for even thinking about this

Communication from Public

Name: Katherine Harvath
Date Submitted: 08/21/2019 11:07 AM
Council File No: 19-0602-S1
Comments for Public Posting: Please repeal 41.18, it criminalizes homelessness. We should be providing services not further harming unhoused people.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 08/21/2019 11:32 AM

Council File No: 19-0602-S1

Comments for Public Posting: Repeal this law outright. Without even close to enough permanent supportive housing, affordable housing, or even shelter, 41.18 is just cruelty in action. Quit wasting your time trying to legislate away humanity at the edges of constitutionality. Instead, repeal a bad law. Then start finding ways to close the gap of affordable housing. Find ways to support people who are going to be stuck out on the streets until you do, because criminalizing them helps no one. We all understand that people are upset but the increasing numbers of unhoused individuals in LA, but sometimes people are wrong about how to solve the problem. The City Council needs to rise above the anger and hate. Address people's problems and stop treating people as problems.

Communication from Public

Name: Lisa Redmond

Date Submitted: 08/21/2019 11:41 AM

Council File No: 19-0602-S1

Comments for Public Posting: I oppose the motion asking the City Attorney to revise LAMC 41.18, which is currently used to criminalize our unhoused community in public places like sidewalks. I want to tell the City Council to repeal 41.18d outright. Until we have housing and safe places for unhoused people to be, this law is inhumane. Even if a ticket is not given, it is used to threaten people. Even without a roof over their heads, our unhoused brothers and sisters are our neighbors and community members. This is not how we should treat our neighbors and community members by punishing them for being less fortunate. It is plain and simple an act to criminalize individuals for being homeless. Policing and criminalizing the unhoused will not solve the homeless crisis.

Communication from Public

Name: Matt Fisher

Date Submitted: 08/21/2019 08:03 AM

Council File No: 19-0602-S1

Comments for Public Posting: I encourage you to follow the Supreme Court decision Martin v Boise in all aspects of homelessness. I would also like to remind you that it is illegal to discriminate against any group of people in this country and criminalization of homelessness is discrimination against human life and everything we stand for as a country and sanctuary city. There is currently no legal place for a human being to legally sleep if they are homeless. The city of Los Angeles has spent billions and many years preventing any progress in regards to ending homelessness, they've removed park/bus benches, removed bathrooms, removed trash cans, removed housing and services. Worst of all they have removed any constitutional rights to anyone without a house or an attorney to fight them. It's far past time the city fixes their mistakes and starts addressing these issues in a legal and humane manner, and by allowing one place to sleep, its a start. I encourage you to open up bridge housing, open all supportive housing options and most importantly open your minds past the habitual lawsuits and discriminatory threats from people who constantly try to recall you. We have one goal currently, and it's to house people first. While I do not agree , I agree we have to provide housing if we are not going to reverse the history of destruction of the mental health care system, we have to provide housing if we can't provide addiction rehabilitation centers, we do not have to provide a jail cell because all our funding is being stolen. The best thing we can do is to stop the misuse of funds from others, stop the criminalization through misunderstanding and start addressing our problems for what they are. We do not have a homeless problem we have a mental health and addiction problem, we have misuse of funds problems and we have a human rights problem. As they say in addiction therapy, acceptance is the first step to recovery. I encourage you to take that step and do what's right.

Communication from Public

Name: Soo Yun Kim

Date Submitted: 08/21/2019 08:33 AM

Council File No: 19-0602-S1

Comments for Public Posting: Ban on sitting/sleeping/lying down on the sidewalk? This is clearly targeting homeless people. This is inhuman. This is outrageous. This can not be passed.

Communication from Public

Name: Mike Dickerson
Date Submitted: 08/21/2019 08:36 AM
Council File No: 19-0602-S1
Comments for Public Posting: 41.18d is an unjust law that punishes homeless people for existing. Over 1400 citations were issued under this law last year. Rather than legislating around the edges of a court decision, I urge you to simply repeal 41.18d outright.

Communication from Public

Name: Taiji Miyagawa
Date Submitted: 08/20/2019 10:15 PM
Council File No: 19-0602-S1

Comments for Public Posting: This ordinance to further criminalize homeless people is just another racist and violent attack on our homeless neighbors who cannot afford the exorbitant and runaway rising rents in this city. Please, repeal ordinance 41.18d. This ordinance does nothing to resolve the housing affordability crisis and simply exacerbates the problem by monetizing the criminalization of the most vulnerable members of the city's population. 41.18d is inhumane. Please repeal this cruel ordinance.

Communication from Public

Name: Jesse
Date Submitted: 08/21/2019 12:29 AM
Council File No: 19-0602-S1
Comments for Public Posting: Stop making laws around the edges of litigation. Stop prioritizing a strategy of enforcement over actual solutions. Amend this motion to repeal 41.18d outright. Services not sweeps! Now!

Communication from Public

Name: raylene Moreno
Date Submitted: 08/21/2019 06:12 AM
Council File No: 19-0602-S1
Comments for Public Posting: I urge you to repeal/amend lamc section 41.18d. It provides no betterment to society to criminalize the homeless. Services, affordable housing, healthcare (including mental) are needed to mitigate the homeless problem.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 08/21/2019 06:29 AM

Council File No: 19-0602-S1

Comments for Public Posting: Please repeal this, criminalization of homeless is cruel and does not achieve any benefit for those housed and unhoused alike.

Communication from Public

Name: Tommy

Date Submitted: 08/21/2019 11:49 AM

Council File No: 19-0602-S1

Comments for Public Posting: 41.18(d) is a stain on the record of the city of Los Angeles. This law is among the worst in the entire United States for how it criminalizes poverty and disregards basic human rights. Now that the courts have given the city a reality check, that these types of laws are cruel and unusual punishment, it is time to repeal them entirely. People have a right to live on this earth, regardless of whether or not they have money. They deserve to have their basic human rights respected by the city. Yes, even poor people have human rights. And those rights include being able to sit or lie down. Laws like this one only further reinforce the cycle of poverty. What percentage of a poor person's income do you think \$75 is? If they cannot afford to pay it, is it effective as a tool of social control? No, at that point it is only cruel and unusual punishment. Punishment for being poor. You must work to end the ticket-to-prison pipeline and end the cycle of poverty. Also, the opposition to this measure is completely dishonest. Most of the opposition comments are copied and pasted from Travis Binen's comment, which is full of lies. "most of them with drug problems and mental problems" - The LAHSA report showed that only 15% of our unhoused neighbors struggle with substance abuse disorder, and only 25% have a serious mental health issue. 71% report neither. Notice how this is a far cry from "most" of our unhoused neighbors, a lie which is constantly used to disparage and write off poor people. "this cities policies attract for unhoused people" - Another lie to label poor and unhoused people as "others" that we should not bother to help. LAHSA reports 87.6% of unhoused residents having lived in LA for over a year, and 67.6% as having lived in LA for over a decade. These are our longtime neighbors who deserve their basic human rights respected. "unhoused people are violent" - Seriously? They don't even try to hide their dehumanization and stigmatization of poor people. Dollars and your housing status do not determine your capacity as a human being. Would you believe me if I said "homeowners are violent"? No, it's ridiculous. This opposition would seriously advocate to terrorize the poor and unhoused population, in an attempt to drive them from their homes. I cannot think of a more selfish and evil way to address poverty and homelessness. You must reject these folks and their lies, and repeal 41.18(d) in its entirety.

Communication from Public

Name: William Warrener

Date Submitted: 08/21/2019 01:20 PM

Council File No: 19-0602-S1

Comments for Public Posting: I strongly urge the City of Los Angeles to repeal and delete 41.18d and am aghast that the City would seek such a cruel, ineffectual and unnecessary solution to our homelessness crisis. Koreatown, my neighborhood, has been asking for a bridge home shelter for over a year, and nothing has been done yet. I fail to see what possible positive results could come from further stigmatizing and criminalizing residents on the streets who have nowhere else to go, and who have not been helped in this problem by our chronic lack of affordable housing and the absence of government welfare support.

Communication from Public

Name: Concerned Ktown community member

Date Submitted: 08/21/2019 01:29 PM

Council File No: 19-0602-S1

Comments for Public Posting: The Eighth Amendment's prohibition on cruel and unusual punishment bars a city from prosecuting people criminally for sleeping outside on public property when those people have no home or other shelter to go to. In a City of 27,000 unsheltered homeless and only 9,702 emergency shelter and transitional housing beds, nearly 20,000 people each night stand to have their Constitutional protections violated by laws designed to criminalize the unhoused. Reauthorizing laws that criminalize homelessness like 41.18d promote the discredited idea that homelessness is driven by criminality, and undermine efforts to site and build much needed shelters and housing. Ktown for All and other concerned community members has been asking for a bridge home shelter for over a year, and nothing has been done yet. If the City was serious, it would be holding hearings on the failure to move necessary homeless housing projects instead of finding ways around a court ruling. Criminalizing homelessness solves nothing. It is counterproductive and makes it harder for people to escape homelessness. We therefore urge the Council to delete 41.18(d) outright and to turn our City's resources to solutions instead of unjust laws that simply entrench poverty and criminalize the unhoused.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 08/21/2019 01:46 PM

Council File No: 19-0602-S1

Comments for Public Posting: Please don't punish the homeless for being homeless.

Communication from Public

Name: Kristina Meshelski

Date Submitted: 08/21/2019 02:19 PM

Council File No: 19-0602-S1

Comments for Public Posting: Sitting on the sidewalk should not be a crime. But particularly in our current situation in Los Angeles, 41.18(d) is cruel and counterproductive. The city is spending more money enforcing laws like this than they are making in tickets, as the people being ticketed are unable to pay. In 2018, at least 1,424 unhoused people were cited under LAMC 41.18d for sitting on the sidewalk in the City of Los Angeles. What does that possibly solve, when people cannot afford a roof over their head, to give them a ticket for sitting on sidewalks? We need to start treating each other like human beings, and stop making police and tickets the only response to homelessness. Repeal 41.18d.

Communication from Public

Name: Kyle Scott

Date Submitted: 08/21/2019 02:32 PM

Council File No: 19-0602-S1

Comments for Public Posting: I call on the Council to stop criminalizing poverty now. In a city of 27,000 unsheltered homeless and only 9,702 emergency shelter and transitional housing beds, nearly 20,000 people each night stand to have their Constitutional protections violated by laws like LAMC 41.18(d) that criminalize the unhoused. This is not complicated: criminalizing homelessness by ticketing hundreds (or even thousands) of unhoused people for sitting on a sidewalk—in 2018, at least 1,424 unhoused people were cited under LAMC 41.18d for this "crime"—solves absolutely nothing and makes it harder for people to escape homelessness. We cannot ticket and criminalize our way out of this crisis—ticketing and criminalizing people does remove them from our streets, it keeps them there longer and simply amplifies and adds on to their already immense struggles. I call on the Council to delete 41.18(d) outright and to turn our city's resources to solutions instead of unjust laws that simply entrench poverty and criminalize the unhoused.

Communication from Public

Name: Ivan Chu

Date Submitted: 08/21/2019 02:38 PM

Council File No: 19-0602-S1

Comments for Public Posting: I am asking that City Council repeal 41.18(d) outright, and work towards actually helping our homeless neighbors, instead of criminalizing them. Los Angeles' supply of shelter beds and transitional housing are woefully overwhelmed, with only 9,702 beds serving over 27,000 unhoused Angelenos. This ordinance is counterproductive, unconstitutional and, above all, inhumane. If City Council wants to seriously address our housing crisis, I would suggest that they instead work to provide housing, such as the bridge shelter that those of us in KTown for All have been calling for.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 08/21/2019 02:46 PM

Council File No: 19-0602-S1

Comments for Public Posting: Good Afternoon Honorable and Respected Members of the Los Angeles City Council Homelessness and Poverty Committee: I hope your day is going well. I am a constituent of Los Angeles currently residing in Councilperson Blumenfield's district. I am writing to you in regards to LAMC 41.18. I am requesting a point of clarity. Is it possible that we in the City of Los Angeles simply do not understand what it means to “criminalize poverty”? It means to forcibly punish someone for not having enough to survive. Is that what the law is meant to do? I was wondering if you all had any better suggestions of how to end homelessness in Los Angeles? Where would you go if you had no home? Do you believe the current institutions and systems such as social services are strong enough to support low income and impoverished Angelenos, especially during a time of economic uncertainty, as per the Congressional Budget Office? Are we Americans headed towards a recession? With food stamps being cut, middle class individuals losing their health insurance, and trade wars between large imperial powers; Los Angeles cannot afford to continue its current practices of ignoring and displacing problems. I urge you to consider the unhoused population when making your decision today. Thank You For Your Time. G.

Communication from Public

Name: Donovan Dale

Date Submitted: 08/21/2019 03:26 PM

Council File No: 19-0602-S1

Comments for Public Posting: -The Eighth Amendment's prohibition on cruel and unusual punishment bars a city from prosecuting people criminally for sleeping outside on public property when those people have no home or other shelter to go to. -In a City of 27,000 unsheltered homeless and only 9,702 emergency shelter and transitional housing beds, nearly 20,000 people each night stand to have their Constitutional protections violated by laws designed to criminalize the unhoused. -In 2018, at least 1,424 unhoused people were cited under LAMC 41.18d for sitting on the sidewalk in the City of Los Angeles. Reauthorizing laws that criminalize homelessness like 41.18d promote the discredited idea that homelessness is driven by criminality, and undermine efforts to site and build much needed shelters and housing. -Criminalizing homelessness solves nothing. It is counterproductive and makes it harder for people to escape homelessness. -We therefore urge the Council to delete 41.18(d) outright and to turn our City's resources to solutions instead of unjust laws that simply entrench poverty and criminalize the unhoused

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 08/21/2019 03:37 PM

Council File No: 19-0602-S1

Comments for Public Posting: Please repeal 41.18d. No one likes homelessness but this just makes people suffer.

Communication from Public

Name: Tom Pike

Date Submitted: 08/21/2019 04:00 PM

Council File No: 19-0602-S1

Comments for Public Posting: -The Eighth Amendment's prohibition on cruel and unusual punishment bars a city from prosecuting people criminally for sleeping outside on public property when those people have no home or other shelter to go to. -In a City of 27,000 unsheltered homeless and only 9,702 emergency shelter and transitional housing beds, nearly 20,000 people each night stand to have their Constitutional protections violated by laws designed to criminalize the unhoused. -In 2018, at least 1,424 unhoused people were cited under LAMC 41.18d for sitting on the sidewalk in the City of Los Angeles. Reauthorizing laws that criminalize homelessness like 41.18d promote the discredited idea that homelessness is driven by criminality, and undermine efforts to site and build much needed shelters and housing. -Criminalizing homelessness solves nothing. It is counterproductive and makes it harder for people to escape homelessness. -I therefore urge the Council to delete 41.18(d) outright and to turn our City's resources to solutions instead of unjust laws that simply entrench poverty and criminalize the unhoused.

Communication from Public

Name: Jasmine Stidham

Date Submitted: 08/21/2019 04:31 PM

Council File No: 19-0602-S1

Comments for Public Posting: This law is counterproductive to resolving the homelessness crisis in Ktown. Nothing about this law will address the root of the issue- it will only shift it. If the Council truly cares, and actually wants to make progress in addressing homelessness, then the solution is to provide more shelters and affordable housing. Criminalizing homelessness only maintains the cycle that so many people desperately want to get out of. Do your jobs and stop trying to throw vulnerable people in jail.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 08/21/2019 05:33 PM

Council File No: 19-0602-S1

Comments for Public Posting: I must urge the city council to repeal 41.18. Life on the street is not rock bottom, it is constant free fall. One cannot attempt to pull oneself out of that scenario without ground to stand on and 41.18 criminalizes the simple act of standing. There are no public commons any more, one cannot simply live off the land if they cannot afford four walls. The only publicly available resource left is a hard slab of concrete and even that is illegal under 41.18. The city is short by about 20,000 shelter beds. If everything else is illegal where shall people go?