

RESOLUTION RULES, ELECTIONS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

**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**, the homelessness crisis has continued to affect both the State of California and the City of Los Angeles, with the State homeless population increasing sixteen percent to 151,000 individuals last year; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2016, voters overwhelmingly approved Proposition HHH and Measure JJJ in order to address both the problem of homelessness and lack of affordable housing; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Los Angeles has taken steps to address the issue by declaring a shelter emergency, which allows the City to construct new shelters with minimal health and safety standards and allows shelters to operate year-round; and

**WHEREAS**, the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires that projects undergo an environmental review study to determine the extent of a project's impact on the surrounding environment; and

**WHEREAS**, CEQA can add over a year to a project timeline and has often been used by a project's opponents to slow down or otherwise stop a project from moving forward; and

**WHEREAS**, in addition to longer project timelines, the State CEQA process can result in increased costs for projects; and

**WHEREAS**, AB 1907 (Santiago), currently pending in the California State Assembly, would create a CEQA exemption for public agencies providing emergency shelters, supportive housing, and/or affordable housing until January 1, 2029; and

**WHEREAS**, exemptions under AB 1907 would allow cities to address the insufficient affordable housing supply, help provide the homeless with the supportive services that they need, and to construct shelters for the most vulnerable populations living on the streets; and

**WHEREAS**, allowing for this exemption would allow public agencies to respond appropriately to the urgency of housing and homelessness crisis, and deliver desperately needed shelter and services as needed;

**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 2019-2020 State Legislative Program SUPPORT for AB 1907 (Santiago) which would create a CEQA exemption for public agencies providing emergency shelters, supportive housing, or affordable housing until January 1, 2029.

PRESENTED BY: 

DAVID RYU  
Councilmember, 4<sup>th</sup> District

SECONDED BY: 

JAN 14 2020



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