

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

WHEREAS, the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) has the authority to regulate residential drug and alcohol treatment facilities and enforce state licensing laws via fines and penalties; and

WHEREAS, state licensed residential alcohol and drug abuse treatment facilities with capacity of six or less persons provide a therapeutic environment and enable patients to be socially integrated into communities throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, under existing regulations, residential licensing does not require that services permitted under the license are provided solely at the location where the State license is issued; and

WHEREAS, some licensees are exploiting this loophole by buying multiple adjacent houses and creating campus-style facilities in residential neighborhoods that combine services at multiple addresses; and

WHEREAS, due to the huge profits and the current nominal fines and penalties, many licensees continue to operate these campus-style facilities and suffer minimal recourse; and

WHEREAS, this is a detriment to patients seeking an individualized therapeutic environment, as well as the character and quality of life of the surrounding neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, AB 3162 (Friedman), currently pending in the State Assembly, would grant DHCS greater licensing oversight for small facilities, update fines, and prevent clustering of treatment centers in residential neighborhoods;

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 2017-2018 State Legislative Program support for AB 3162 (Friedman), which would clarify and reform state licensing laws for residential drug and alcohol treatment facilities.

PRESENTED BY: 
 MITCHELL ENGLANDER
 Councilmember, 12th District

SECONDED BY: 


 APR 10 2018