

BUDGET & FINANCE
HOMELESSNESS AND POVERTY

MOTION

In April of 2018, the City Council and the Mayor declared a shelter crisis in the City of Los Angeles. The Fiscal Year (FY) 2018-19 Adopted Budget includes \$20M to establish the Crisis and Bridge Housing Fund to develop new crisis and bridge housing beds for unsheltered individuals experiencing homelessness throughout the City, with the goal of adding 50-100 new beds per Council District. In addition, \$10M was included in the Unappropriated Balance (UB) for Homeless Services Programs.

The Bridge Home initiative was a necessary step in the right direction. More is needed to solve Los Angeles's homelessness crisis. To continue to reduce the number of unhoused Angelenos, we must also address the inflow of people new to homelessness. On February 13, 2019, City Council passed the first Right to Counsel (RTC) motion (18-0610) recognizing that low-income tenants face eviction or the threat of eviction, which leads to displacement and ultimately homelessness. Accordingly, through the 45th Consolidated Plan, the Mayor and Council established their intent to pass a Right to Counsel initiative, which ensures legal representation is available for tenants facing eviction.

In order to begin offsetting displacement caused by evictions, the RTC initiative needs to be sufficiently funded. Furthermore, on February 13, 2019, a City Council motion urged the CAO, the Mayor, and City Council, in the RTC motion, to identify \$10 million for implementation.

Because the intent of all our efforts and revenues, including A Bridge Home, is to reduce homelessness, the City not only must house people experiencing homelessness, but also properly address its causes. One of the driving factors of homelessness is eviction or the threat of eviction. With adequate funding, Right to Counsel would reduce displacement and ultimately first-time homelessness. Unutilized resources targeted for A Bridge Home can also be used for interventions for tenants facing eviction.

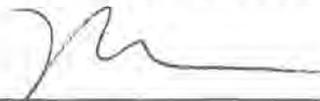
I THEREFORE MOVE that, subject to the approval of the Mayor, a minimum of \$5,000,000 from the Unappropriated Balance (UB) Homeless Services Programs allocation be appropriated to begin implementation of Right to Counsel.

PROPOSED BY:



PAUL KORETZ, Councilmember, Fifth District

SECONDED BY:



ORIGINAL

