

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 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, a recent study by the California Policy Lab found that one in five unhoused people engaged by outreach workers in Los Angeles County – about 7,000 – had a diagnosis of serious mental illness; and

WHEREAS, studies estimate that almost 40 percent of the County jail population – about 5,000 inmates on a typical day – are in need of mental health treatment; and

WHEREAS, people experiencing homelessness in Los Angeles are living on the streets with severe mental illness and are unable to avail themselves of public services, and as a result are dying in the streets; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that there are only 1,700 sub-acute beds in the County where patients can live for a few days or a few months with psychiatric care provided; and

WHEREAS, this number of sub-acute beds is about a third of the number needed; and

WHEREAS, clinicians are reluctant to prescribe 72-hour or longer psychiatric holds or conservatorships under the State’s Lanterman-Petrus-Short Act due to this shortfall in facilities, as well as a shortage of skilled staff; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that the State of California will have a \$31 billion surplus in the next fiscal year;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, with concurrence of the Mayor, that the City Council, by the adoption of this Resolution, hereby includes in its 2021-22 State Legislative Program, SPONSORSHIP and/or SUPPORT of legislation or administrative action for the State to allocate funding to allow Los Angeles County to meet the number of beds recommended by mental health experts: 50 public beds per 100,000 residents.

PRESENTED BY: Joe Buscaino
JOE BUSCAINO
Councilmember, 15th District

SECONDED BY: [Signature]

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DEC 08 2021

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