

REVISED MOTION BY SUPERVISOR HOLLY J. MITCHELL

January 25, 2022

5-Signature Letter to Support Two-Year Priority Bills in the California State Legislature

COVID-19 has laid bare the systemic inequities in the social fabric of Los Angeles County (County). The Los Angeles Economic Development Corporation reports that 738,672 living wage jobs must be created for the entire County workforce to achieve a satisfactory standard of living. Moreover, the pandemic has had a disproportionate impact on women, people of color, and low-income households. We must continue to protect the health of our communities while we safely put in place high road workforce development opportunities, small business support and strategies for attracting family sustaining jobs in order to create an equitable recovery.

To further the Board of Supervisors (Board) collective vision around creating a thriving County for all, it is in the County’s interest to support state legislation that promotes a better quality of life for our residents. The State Legislature (Legislature) is now in the second year of the 2021-22 legislative session. There are a number of two-year bill proposals moving forward that must pass their house of origin by January 31, 2022. The six proposed pieces of legislation listed below further the Board’s objectives to alleviate poverty; secure and preserve stable housing for all; provide worker protections

- MORE -

MOTION

SOLIS _____

KUEHL _____

HAHN _____

BARGER _____

MITCHELL _____

and career pathways for those with barriers to employment; ensure everyone has access to healthcare; and eliminate racial disparities in the child welfare system. ~~These proposals are consistent with existing policy and/or previous Board actions.~~

Homelessness and Housing

SB 513 by Senator Hertzberg would award grants to shelter sites (~~permanent or interim~~) that provide for residents' pets, funding for food, shelter, and basic veterinary care. In ~~2019~~2020, the Legislature passed a bill for one-time funding of a similar program – this bill would codify the program as a component of the State's annual budget. Pet care is one of the biggest barriers for our unhoused constituents to get into shelter, housing or hotel/motel sites.

AB 854 by Assemblymember Lee would reform the Ellis Act and end the revolving door of evictions by creating a five-year holding period before the Ellis Act can be used to evict existing tenants. This bill would serve to deter speculator abuse.

Workforce Development

AB 328 by Assemblymember Bryan creates the Reentry Housing and Workforce Development Act. This bill would create a grant program for counties, Continuums of Care ~~cities~~ and ~~nonprofit~~ community-based organizations to fund programs that divert people who may exit prison into homelessness to instead find housing and employment.

AB 257 by Assemblymember Lorena Gonzalez Holden ~~Holden~~ creates the Fast Food Accountability and Standards Recovery Act. This bill would establish a state-appointed Fast Food Sector Council tasked with conducting a full review every three years on the adequacy of fast food restaurant health, safety and employment standards and establishing to enact industry-wide minimum standards on wages, working hours, and other working conditions related to the health, safety, and welfare of fast food workers. Only 3% of fast food and counter workers currently belong to unions nationwide.

Health

AB 1400 by Assemblymember Kalra would create the California Guaranteed Health Care for All program, or CalCare, to provide comprehensive universal single-payer health care coverage and a health care cost control system for the benefit of all residents of the State.

Child Welfare and Human Services

~~———— AB 656 by Assemblymember Carrillo would require the State Department of Social Services to establish a three-year pilot program for the purpose of addressing racial disparities in the child welfare system in at least five counties. This bill would require the department to submit to the Legislature an evaluation of the pilot programs and their impact and effectiveness.~~

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Board of Supervisors (Board) direct Los Angeles County's (County) legislative advocates in Sacramento to support SB 513 (Hertzberg), AB 854 (Lee), AB 328 (Bryan), AB 257 (Gonzalez) (~~Holden~~), and AB 1400 (Kalra), and ~~AB 656 (Carrillo)~~ in furtherance of the Board's priorities to ensure a thriving County for all, ~~, and for the Sacramento advocates to add the above bills to the County-sponsored legislative proposals list for pursuit of a support position.~~

#

(CT/ME)