

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR ZEV YAROSLAVSKY

November 1, 2011

According to the 2010 Annual Homeless Assessment Report submitted to Congress by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, California has the largest homeless population in the country with a point-in-time estimate of 132,931 homeless persons. The States with the next largest populations in descending order are New York at 65,606; Florida at 57,551; Texas at 35,121; and Washington at 22,878.

In 2007, the homeless population in California was 159,732. From 2007 to 2010, California had a reduction in homelessness of 26,901 persons. At this rate, it will take nearly 20 years to end homelessness in California.

There are over 10 State agencies in California administering programs affecting homelessness without coordination by any one entity. Across the country, forty-one governors have created interagency councils on homelessness to reduce duplication of effort, streamline application processes, and coordinate funding streams for local governments and community-based organizations to access State resources more easily.

Because California has no such council, we leave potentially millions of dollars on the table since Federal grant programs either require or award bonus points to State

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applicants with interagency councils. California agencies also often fail to apply for Federal and philanthropic grants because the State has no entity to coordinate applications for such grants.

Through the formation of a California Interagency Council on Homelessness (ICH), the State will empower an entity through which State government can coordinate policy and resources and collaborate across agencies, sectors and local jurisdictions to prevent and end homelessness in California. An ICH is the best way to assert the needs, resources, and best practices to the State Legislature as well as to move Federal initiatives forward in the fight to prevent and end homelessness in our nation.

Furthermore, the Board of Supervisors 2011-12 State Legislative Agenda supports the creation of a State plan to end homelessness and calls for a State-level Interagency Council on Homelessness.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board:

Direct the Executive Officer of the Board of Supervisors to prepare and send a five-signature letter from the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors to the Honorable Edmund G. Brown Jr., Governor of California, urging that he issue an Executive Order creating a California Interagency Council on Homelessness.

FGK S:\Motions\2011\CA Interagency on Homelessness