

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR LINDSEY P. HORVATH

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Increasing the Rent Debt Threshold for Households in Los Angeles County

On June 7, 2025, the Trump Administration launched an aggressive immigration enforcement campaign across Los Angeles County. Federal immigration agents have descended upon Los Angeles, detaining thousands of individuals, disrupting families, and causing severe economic, housing, safety, and public health and welfare instability in our region and across the country. Thousands of Angelenos have been taken from their homes, leaving their families unstable, and causing immense harm to our communities.

On October 14, 2025, the Board of Supervisors declared an emergency in response to this escalation of immigration enforcement which has disrupted the lives of thousands of families and individuals. The October 14th proclamation of emergency,¹ and its continuing resolutions,^{2,3} acknowledge that federal enforcement actions and tactics have created a climate of fear, leading to widespread disruption in daily life and adverse impacts to our regional economy due to decreased attendance at workplaces, the

¹ [October 14, 2025, Proclamation of Existence of a Local Emergency for Federal Immigration Actions in the County of Los Angeles by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors.](#)
² [December 9, 2025, Resolution by the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors to Continue the Local Emergency for Federal Immigration Actions in the County of Los Angeles.](#)
³ [January 13, 2026, Resolution by the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors to Continue the Local Emergency for Federal Immigration Actions in the County of Los Angeles.](#)

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temporary or permanent closure of businesses and restaurants, and increased strain on our local institutions such as schools, hospitals, and places of worship; indiscriminate immigration raids have destabilized entire neighborhoods and reverberate through critical sectors of the economy, leading to long-term harm to workers, families, and businesses; and, based upon these conditions of extreme peril and the County's commitment to protect the health, safety and welfare of its residents and property, the County is likely to require resources well beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment and facilities of the County.

This Board has the authority to strengthen emergency protections to provide safety and stability for households impacted by these ongoing emergencies.

Recently, ICE has escalated their tactics in Minneapolis causing the tragic deaths of American residents. 170 American citizens were arrested or detained last year by ICE. Nine people have been killed by ICE in 2026 alone. This emergency goes beyond undocumented individuals and impacts all of us.

ICE will continue this escalation across the country as this administration has shown its desire to destabilize and spread fear amongst the American people. Angelenos are faced with an impossible decision to leave their homes for work, to drop their children off at school, or to visit places of worship at risk of detainment, harassment, physical injury, death, or deportation. This puts households who were already on the margins even further over the edge.

Families are forced to choose whether their limited income should go towards food, basic needs, medical expenses, or housing. The County can alleviate the pressure that these families are feeling by authorizing emergency stabilization measures to protect

households from losing the roofs over their heads.

Under the County's Rent Stabilization and Tenant Protections Ordinance (RSTPO) eligible tenants in Unincorporated Areas cannot be evicted for rental debt up to one month of fair market rent. Fair market rent for purposes of this section is \$2,085 for a one-bedroom, and \$2,601 for a two-bedroom unit, as established by the Department of Housing and Urban Development. However, given the ongoing economic hardships faced by thousands of Angelenos, this Board must extend this protection to all of Los Angeles County and increase the rental debt amount to three months of fair market rent. The County should exercise its emergency powers to extend renter protections to all 88 cities across Los Angeles County.

With the ongoing housing and affordability crisis across the County, we must do everything we can to prevent more Angelenos from falling into homelessness.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct County Counsel to return to the Board on March 3, 2026, with a resolution to establish a Countywide monetary eviction threshold for tenants impacted by the Local Emergency For Federal Immigration Actions, under which an impacted tenant may only be evicted for nonpayment of rent if the tenant's total rental debt owed exceeds a monetary threshold amount equal to three months of fair market rent as defined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

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