

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 30, 2016

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

House Resolution

No. 56

Introduced by Assembly Members Santiago and Ting

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Achadjian, Alejo, Arambula, Atkins, Bloom, Bonilla, Bonta, Brown, Burke, Calderon, Campos, Chau, Chiu, Chu, Cooley, Cooper, Dababneh, Dodd, Eggman, Gallagher, Cristina Garcia, Eduardo Garcia, Gatto, Gipson, Gomez, Gonzalez, Gordon, Gray, Roger Hernández, Holden, Irwin, Jones-Sawyer, Lackey, Levine, Low, Maienschein, McCarty, Medina, Mullin, Nazarian, Quirk, Rendon, Ridley-Thomas, Rodriguez, Salas, Steinorth, Mark Stone, Thurmond, Weber, Williams, and Wood)

June 28, 2016

House Resolution No. 56—Relative to homelessness.

1 WHEREAS, Homelessness is one of the most pervasive issues
2 facing California today; and

3 WHEREAS, According to the United States Department of
4 Housing and Urban Development, there were 115,738 homeless
5 people in California in 2015, by far the most of any state in the
6 nation; and

7 WHEREAS, Rising rents, rapidly declining numbers of
8 low-income housing units, and slow wage growth have all
9 contributed to homelessness; and

10 WHEREAS, Of the nation's top ten most expensive rental
11 markets, four are located in California; and

12 WHEREAS, The median rent for a one-bedroom apartment in
13 San Francisco is \$3,590, in San Jose is \$2,290, in Oakland is
14 \$2,270, and in Los Angeles is \$1,970; and

1 WHEREAS, San Francisco’s Point-in-Time Homeless Count
2 in 2015 identified 7,539 homeless adults and youths, a 7 percent
3 increase since 2005; and

4 WHEREAS, A report by the San Francisco Budget and
5 Legislative Analyst’s Office found that while the initial costs
6 associated with housing homeless residents increased when those
7 individuals entered supportive housing, the city’s costs were
8 reduced drastically as those formerly homeless individuals were
9 stabilized; and

10 WHEREAS, The County of Los Angeles now has an estimated
11 46,874 homeless people on any given night, up nearly 6 percent
12 from last year, according to the Los Angeles Homeless Services
13 Authority; and

14 WHEREAS, On any given night in Sacramento, more than 2,500
15 individuals are without a home, and an estimated 5,200 more will
16 become homeless over the course of the next year; and

17 WHEREAS, San Diego’s homeless population rose to 8,742 in
18 2015 from 8,506 in 2014, a 2.8% increase that makes the homeless
19 population in San Diego one of the top four in the nation, and
20 1,100 of that homeless population are veterans; and

21 WHEREAS, In 2015, the homeless population in Fresno
22 increased for the first time in almost 8 years; and

23 WHEREAS, Homelessness has risen to historic levels
24 throughout the state, and now is the time for state action; and

25 WHEREAS, Being homeless is dangerous, especially for youth,
26 in San Francisco, experience a mortality rate more than 10 times
27 higher than that of the state’s general youth population; and

28 WHEREAS, In March of 2016, the San Francisco Board of
29 Supervisors requested Governor Brown to issue a statewide
30 declaration of emergency to help coordinate the response and
31 resources for homeless individuals and families; and

32 WHEREAS, The Los Angeles Board of Supervisors
33 unanimously approved an unprecedented plan to address the crisis
34 in the county by allocating \$100 million in one-time funding for
35 homeless services; and

36 WHEREAS, The City of Los Angeles has already declared a
37 state of emergency as it relates to the lack of shelter for homeless
38 in the city; now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California,* That the
2 Assembly requests that Governor Brown declare a state of
3 emergency on homelessness; and be it further

4 *Resolved,* That the Assembly recognizes that the challenge of
5 confronting homelessness requires the active engagement and
6 leadership of all arms of government; and be it further

7 *Resolved,* That the Legislature must prioritize taking action on
8 homelessness prior to the adjournment of the 2015–16 Regular
9 Session of the Legislature; and be it further

10 *Resolved,* That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
11 of this resolution to the Governor for the appropriate distribution.

O