

Introduced by Senator Hall

August 4, 2016

Senate Resolution No. 84—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 10 most expensive rental
11 markets, four are located in California; and
12 WHEREAS, The median rent for a one-bedroom apartment is
13 \$3,590 in San Francisco, \$2,290 in San Jose, \$2,270 in Oakland,
14 and \$1,970 in Los Angeles; and
15 WHEREAS, San Francisco’s Point-in-Time Homeless Count in
16 2015 identified 7,539 homeless adults and youth, a 7-percent
17 increase since 2005; and
18 WHEREAS, A report by the San Francisco Budget and
19 Legislative Analyst’s Office found that while the initial costs
20 associated with housing homeless residents increased when those
21 individuals entered supportive housing, the city’s costs were
22 reduced drastically as those formerly homeless individuals were
23 stabilized; and
24 WHEREAS, The County of Los Angeles now has an estimated
25 46,874 homeless people on any given night, up nearly 6 percent

1 from last year, according to the Los Angeles Homeless Services
2 Authority; and

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

6 WHEREAS, San Diego’s homeless population rose to 8,742 in
7 2015 from 8,506 in 2014, a 2.8 percent increase that makes the
8 homeless population in San Diego one of the top four in the nation,
9 and 1,100 of that homeless population are veterans; and

10 WHEREAS, In 2015, the homeless population in Fresno
11 increased for the first time in almost eight years; and

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

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

17 WHEREAS, In March of 2016, the San Francisco Board of
18 Supervisors requested Governor Brown to issue a statewide
19 declaration of emergency to help coordinate the response and
20 resources for homeless individuals and families; and

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

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

28 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California*, That the Senate
29 respectfully requests that Governor Brown declare a state of
30 emergency on homelessness; and be it further

31 *Resolved*, That the Senate recognizes that the challenge of
32 confronting homelessness requires the active engagement and
33 leadership of all branches of government; and be it further

34 *Resolved*, That the Senate must prioritize taking action on
35 homelessness prior to the adjournment of the 2015–16 Regular
36 Session of the Legislature; and be it further

1 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
2 this resolution to the Governor and to the author for appropriate
3 distribution.

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