



MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA
CITY OF LONG BEACH

August 12, 2016

The Honorable Jim Beall, Chair
California State Senate, Transportation and Housing
State Capitol, Room 4203
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Support for Senate Resolution 84 (Hall) – Relative to Homelessness

Dear Chairman de León:

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I am pleased to support Senate Resolution 84 (Hall). On July 19, 2016, the Long Beach City Council voted to support a resolution that respectfully requests that the Governor and State Legislature declare a state of emergency to combat homelessness in California.

Long Beach has a strong history of working with all members of our homeless population to transition to housing. The City provides a range of services at our Multi-Service Center, which is a facility that is dedicated to assisting homeless individuals transition into permanent housing. However, homelessness continues to be one of the most pervasive issues facing local agencies today. The homeless crisis endangers the health and safety of thousands of California residents, specifically veterans, women, children, LGBT youth, seniors and persons with disabilities.

According to the United State Department of Housing and Urban Development there were over 115,000 homeless individuals in California in 2015, by far the most of any state in the country. The scale of homelessness statewide threatens economic stability by burdening public safety, emergency medical services and social services. When the Assembly passed House Resolution 56 urging the Governor to declare a state of emergency on homelessness, it was expressing its opinion that homelessness is beyond the control of local authority and requires state emergency assistance. SR 84 would clarify that the Senate believes the Governor should take any measure necessary to unilaterally combat homelessness statewide.

Given these reasons, the City of Long Beach supports SR 84 (Hall).

Sincerely,

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Isadore Hall, III, State Senate, 35th District
The Honorable Speaker Anthony Rendon, State Assembly
The Honorable Ricardo Lara, State Senate, 33rd District
The Honorable Janet Nguyen, State Senate, 34th District
The Honorable Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 64th District
The Honorable Patrick O'Donnell, State Assembly, 70th District

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