

## **Councilmember Dan Kalb**

**CITY OF OAKLAND** 

CITY HALL - ONE FRANK H. OGAWA PLAZA, 2ND FLOOR - OAKLAND - CALIFORNIA 94612

# Agenda Memorandum

To: Rules & Legislation Committee

From: Councilmember Dan Kalb

Date: April 26, 2018

Subject: Support of SB 918: Homeless Youth Act of 2018

Colleagues on the City Council and Members of the Public,

With my introduced Resolution of Support for SB 918 (Weiner), I am submitting the attached Fact Sheet, April 12, 2018 bill analysis from the Senate Committee on Transportation and Housing, and text of the bill.

Respectfully submitted,

1/ll .

Dan Kalb, Councilmember



Senator Scott Wiener, 11<sup>th</sup> Senate District (Author) Assemblywoman Blanca E. Rubio 48<sup>th</sup> Assembly District (Principal Co-Author)



# Senate Bill 918 – Homeless Youth Act of 2018

#### PROBLEM

One in 10 youth aged 18-25 experiences some form of homelessness each year, according to 2017 research. California has the highest rate of youth homelessness in the nation – 38 percent of the nation's total. In 2017, there were 15,458 unaccompanied homeless youth in California without a safe place to call home. This includes youth ages 12 to 24 living in cars, parks, abandoned buildings, bus or train stations, on the street, or in other places not intended for human habitation.

The state's investment in programs to support young people is woefully inadequate. At the last statewide survey, only 20 of California's 58 counties had direct services for homeless youth. Yet unique services are needed for this population.

Solving youth homelessness is a critical part of ending California's larger crisis. One study of chronically homeless adults found fully half of them were homelessness as youth.

Yet California lacks a clear strategy to prevent and end homelessness among young people in the state. Policy and funding are scattered across various state agencies and departments.

#### SOLUTION

This bill creates the Office of Homeless Youth within the Department of Housing and Community Development and requires it to set specific goals to prevent and end youth homelessness in California, and to monitor progress toward those goals. The bill also requires the Office to:

- Assess system gaps and report them to the Legislature.
- Provide technical assistance to jurisdictions, particularly those without existing programs to serve homeless youth.
- Coordinate efforts to prevent homelessness among youth who were involved in the child welfare or juvenile justice systems.

Coordinate with young people experiencing homelessness, appropriate state entities and other stakeholders to inform policy, practices and programs.

The bill establishes \$60 million in grants from the cannabis tax and other funds, administered by the Office of Homeless Youth, to do the following:

- Provide rental assistance; non-time-limited supportive housing; transitional housing; rapid re-housing; host homes; and shelters for homeless minors and youth.
- Provide drug abuse prevention; mental and physical health care; transitional living services; education and employment assistance; and family support.
- Demonstrate cultural sensitivity to various groups, including youth who are LGBT, and have disproportionately high rates of homelessness.
- Prioritize funding for agencies that work with their local continuum of care organizations and otherwise coordinate with local and state youth-serving organizations.

#### **CO-AUTHORS**

- Senator Ben Allen
- Senator Jim Beall
- Senator Steve Glazer
- Senator Jerry Hill
- Senator Connie Leyva
- Senator Anthony Portantino
- Assembly Member David Chiu
- Assembly Member Ken Cooley
- Assembly Member Tom Lackey
- Assembly Member Brian Maienschein
- Assembly Member Chad Mayes
- Assembly Member Eloise Gómez Reyes
- Assembly Member Marc Steinorth
- Assembly Member Mark Stone
- Assembly Member Tony Thurmond

#### SUPPORT

#### **Co-Sponsors:**

California Coalition for Youth

- Corporation for Supportive Housing
- Equality California
- Housing California
- John Burton Advocates for Youth
- Tipping Point

#### Support:

All saints Church Foster Care Project Antelope Valley College Arcata Family Resource Center Aspiranet Foster Family Agency Barnabas Charity Outreach, Inc. **Bay Area Youth Center Beyond Emancipation Bill Wilson Center Black Sisters Sharing** Butte/Glenn Community College California Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry California Apartment Association California Coalition for Youth Casa de Amparo. Children's Hospital Los Angeles Children's Law Center of California City of Long Beach **City of West Hollywood David & Margaret Youth and Family Services EA Family Services Encompass Community Services Episcopal Community Services First Place for Youth Foster Care Counts** Fred Finch Youth Center Fresno State Renaissance Scholars Program Hamilton Families Haven of Hope Hillsides **Holly Place** Home Start, Inc. Imperial Valley LGBT Resource Center Imperial Valley Regional Occupational Program Project ACE Jovenes, Inc. Kamali'i Foster Family Agency Larkin Street Youth Services Los Angeles City College Los Angeles County Office of Education Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority Mercy Housing

National Safe Place Network New Alternatives, Inc. **Oxnard College** Pacific Clinics PATH Scholars at California State University Persistence Plus **Public Counsel Redwood Community Action Agency Redwood Community Action Agency Youth Services** Bureau **Riverside City College** Sacramento City College, EOPS Safe Place for Youth San Diego LGBT Community Center San Diego Youth Services San Francisco Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender **Community Center** Social Advocates for Youth South Bay Community Services South County Cal-SOAP St Anne's Transitional Housing Program StarVista **Sunny Hills Services** Tahoe Youth and Family Services Taking it to the Streets The America Academy of Pediatrics The Children's Partnership The City and County of San Francisco The Law Foundation of Silicone Valley The Non-Profit Housing Association of Northern California **TLC Child and Family Services** United Friends of the Children Unity Care Group University of San Diego **Uplift Family Services** 

National Center for Youth Law

2 individuals

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION

Mareva Brown Email: <u>mareva.brown@sen.ca.gov</u> Phone: (916) 651-4170

# SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND HOUSING Senator Jim Beall, Chair 2017 - 2018 Regular

Bill No:	SB 918			Hearing Date:	4/24/2018
Author: Version:	Wiener 4/12/2018	Amended			
Urgency:	No			Fiscal:	Yes
<b>Consultant:</b>	Jeffery Song				

SUBJECT: Homeless Youth Act of 2018

**DIGEST:** This bill establishes \$60 million annually in grant funding to create or expand programs that alleviate youth homelessness in California. This bill also creates an Office of Homeless Youth in the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) to administer the grants, identify gaps in services statewide, provide data and reports to the Legislature, and participate in the state's Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council.

# ANALYSIS:

## *Existing law*:

- Establishes a Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council to oversee and coordinate the implementation of the Housing First guidelines and regulations in California, and identify resources and services that can be accessed to prevent and end homelessness in California, and requires the Governor to appoint up to 15 members to the council, as specified.
- 2) Establishes HCD to administer a variety of programs to meet a large range of housing needs, including emergency shelters and transitional housing, affordable rental housing, and affordable homeownership.
- 3) Establishes four homeless youth emergency pilot projects in the counties of Los Angeles, San Francisco, San Diego, and Santa Clara – to examine the conditions of and create a profile for homeless youth, in order to locate these youth, provide for their emergency survival needs and to assist them in reunification with their parents in finding a suitable home. Requires the Office of Criminal Justice Planning to issue grants to private, nonprofit agencies with a demonstrated record of success in the delivery of services to homeless youth, as specified.

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- 4) Establishes a cultivation tax on all harvested cannabis that enters the California commercial market and sets specified tax rates and establishes methods for collection and remittance of the tax.
- 5) Requires the State Controller to disburse specified funds from the Cannabis Tax Fund to specified entities related to the regulation of cannabis use and sales and the evaluation of its impact on various aspects of society.
- 6) Requires 60% of the remaining funds be deposited into the Youth Education, Prevention, Early Intervention and Treatment Account, and disbursed by the Controller to the State Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) for programs for youth that are designed to educate about and to prevent substance use disorders and to prevent harm from substance use. Requires DHCS to enter into interagency agreements with the State Department of Public Health and the State Department of Education to implement and administer these programs.
- 7) Identifies as a priority funding for grants to programs for outreach, education, and treatment for homeless youth and out-of-school youth with substance use disorders, among others.

## This bill:

- 1) Entitles the bill the Homeless Youth Act of 2018 and establishes an Office of Homeless Youth (Office) within HCD which reports directly to the HCD Director.
- 2) Defines the role and responsibilities of the Office to include:
  - a) Setting goals to prevent and end homelessness among California's youth.
  - b) Increasing system integration and coordinating efforts to prevent homelessness among youth who are currently or formerly involved in the child welfare services or the juvenile justice system.
  - c) Leading efforts to coordinate a spectrum of funding, policy, and practice efforts related to young people experiencing homelessness.
  - d) Ensuring homeless minors who have experienced maltreatment and are eligible to be dependent children have timely access to the child welfare system.
- 3) Requires the Office to identify funding, policy, and practice gaps across state systems that serve, or hold the potential to serve, young people experiencing

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homelessness and develop specific recommendations and timelines for addressing these gaps.

- a) Defines the services and programs under review to include family support and reunification services, social and emotional wellness and mental health services, street and community outreach programs and drop-in centers, low barrier and diverse housing opportunities, and post-housing and follow-up services.
- b) Requires these recommendations and timelines to be reported to the Legislature by December 31, 2019 and sunsets the report requirement in 2023.
- 4) Requires the Office to provide technical assistance and program development support to increase capacity among new and existing service providers to best meet statewide needs.
- 5) Requires the Office to set measurable goals aimed at preventing and ending youth homelessness in the state, as specified.
- 6) Requires the Office to define outcome measures and collect data related to these goals and submit an annual report to the Legislature by December 31, on these goals, measures and data, starting in 2019, as specified.
- 7) Requires the Office to coordinate with young people experiencing homelessness, the State Department of Social Services, other appropriate state agencies, and the Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council to inform policy, practices, and programs.
- 8) Requires the Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council to include one representative from the Office and requires the Office to collaborate with the Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council to adopt guidelines and regulations, as specified.
- 9) Requires the Office to develop, oversee and administer grant programs to support young people experiencing homelessness, to prevent and end homelessness in California's youth, and to support families and family reunification services, social and emotional wellness and mental health services, street and community outreach programs and drop-in centers, and post-housing and follow-up services.
- 10) Requires the Office to solicit annual progress reports from each grantee and annually review each program for effectiveness in meeting stated project

outcomes and in engaging in continuous quality improvement activities, and to conduct monitoring visits to each grantee at least once per year in order to provide technical assistance in areas of identified need for improvement. Requires the Office to submit an annual report on the grant programs to the Legislature by December 31, as specified, starting in 2019.

- 11) Establishes that the Office receive grant funds from the Youth Education, Prevention, Early Intervention and Treatment Account, as specified, other funding appropriated by the Legislature, and/or gifts and donations to the office. If the annual amount of this funding is less than \$60 million, the remaining funds are appropriated from the General Fund.
- 12) Requires that the grant funds be awarded in a three-year grant cycle and that they are used to supplement existing levels of service and not to supplant existing local, state, or federal funding. Also, requires that the funds cannot be used for the administrative duties of the Office.
- 13) Defines eligible entities to apply for grant funding to be either:
  - a) A private, nonprofit agency with a demonstrated record of success and experience in the delivery of services to young people experiencing homelessness or at-risk youth. The agency is required to identify whether it participates in the continuum-of-care, if the agency is proposing to serve an area covered by a continuum-of-care.
  - b) A continuum-of-care administrative entity with a demonstrated record of success. The entity may use no more than 5 percent of granted funds for administrative purposes.

14) Establishes the following preferences for grantees to receive funding:

- a) Involvement of a network of youth-servicing agencies in the delivery of services to young people experiencing homelessness.
- b) Participation in a local continuum of care.
- c) Utilization of the HMIS.
- d) Participation in the development of a local, youth-centered coordinated entry system, including diversion.
- e) An agreement to work together with other entities to develop a local plan to reduce homelessness among homeless youth
- 15) Permits preference to be given to agencies that propose to provide services in geographic areas where similar services are not provided, and there is a demonstrated need for those services.

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- 16) Clarifies that a grant applicant that intends to serve minors is required to be a mandated reporter, including an annual training requirement. Requires that each grant applicant demonstrate that services will be provided within the Positive Youth Development framework so that all participants are assured that programs are safe, inclusive and non-stigmatizing by design and in operation.
- 17) Requires that each grant proposal identify how the services to be provided will address substance use disorders or the risk of substance abuse and how it intends to ensure that participating youth receive services that provide education, prevention, early intervention, and timely treatment for youth.
- 18) Requires that the service provider proactively engage homeless youth to offer a wide array of services for each participant and his or her family, if appropriate. These services can include drug abuse education, prevention and treatment services, access to education and employment assistance, counseling and care management services, and others, as specified.
- 19) Prohibits a service provider from preventing a youth from entering housing or discharging a youth from a housing program on the basis of lack of participation in supportive services.
- 20) Requires that a grantee use funds to establish or expand programs that assess the housing and services needs of homeless youth or youth at risk of homelessness, establish a plan to meet those needs in collaboration with the participant and provide evidence-based housing and services models to participants. These programs can include rental assistance, non-time-limited supportive housing, transitional housing, post-transitional housing assistance, rapid rehousing, flexible rental subsidies, host homes, and shelters for homeless minors and homeless youth.
- 21) Requires that a shelter program established under this program shall provide services, as specified, and depending on the needs of the individual, provide drug abuse education, and prevention and treatment services, as appropriate, and to provide outreach to homeless youth to drug abuse treatment programs, as appropriate.
- 22) Limits grantees to use no more than 40% of funds in a given year to establish, expand or operate shelter programs.

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## COMMENTS

- 1) *Purpose.* According to the author, youth homelessness is a crisis in California. This bill will help get young people off the streets and into housing and services, which will save lives and reduce chronic homelessness in the long-term. This bill directs \$60 million annually in funding to address the alarming rise of youth homelessness in California and establishes an Office of Homeless Youth within HCD to set goals and map progress toward ending youth homelessness.
- 2) *Background*. A homeless youth is defined as a minor younger than 18 or a young adult between 18 and 24 years old who is living individually without shelter. According to the Annual Homeless Assessment Reports to Congress, there were more than 15,000 homeless youth in California in 2017, which is a 26% increase from 2016 and a 32% increase from 2015.<sup>1</sup> HUD and local experts indicate that this number is likely a vast undercount.

The homeless youth population is also disproportionately represented: up to 40% of homeless youth identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender (LGBT).<sup>2</sup> In addition, youth of color, youth who are currently or formerly in the foster care system and youth who have been in the juvenile justice system have higher rates of homelessness. <sup>3-4</sup> Homelessness is also growing among college students. One in 10 California State University system students and one in five students in the Los Angeles Community College District are homeless. <sup>5-6</sup>

3) Current Legislative Funding. Currently, California's largest direct funding stream for homeless youth programs comes through the state's Office of Emergency Services (OES). Prior to 2015, OES provided around \$1 million annually for the Homeless Youth and Exploitation program, which was divided among projects in urban areas to provide crisis intervention and stabilization. In 2016, the Legislature provided \$10 million to fund Homeless Youth Emergency Services Pilot projects in four counties to provide crisis intervention and stabilization services. An additional \$10 million was provided in the 2017 budget to conduct a Homeless Youth Emergency Services and Housing pilot

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://www.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/2017-AHAR-Part-1.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://youth.gov/youth-topics/lgbtq-youth/homelessness

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Dworsky, Amy, Laura Napolitano, Marc Courtney, "Homelessness During the Transition From Foster Care to Adulthood," American Journal of Public Health, December 2013.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> http://www.csh.org/2017/03/addressing-the-intersections-of-juvenile-justice-involvement-and-youth-homelessness-principles-for-change/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> http://www.wihopelab.com/publications/Wisconsin-HOPE-Lab-LA-CC-District-Report-Survey-Student-Needs.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> https://presspage-production-content.s3.amazonaws.com/uploads/1487/cohomelessstudy.pdf?10000

project in four counties, which may include rapid rehousing, rental assistance, transitional housing, and supportive housing.

4) *Homeless Youth Have Unique Needs.* According to the HUD annual count, unaccompanied homeless youth are much more likely to be unsheltered (55%) than all people experiencing homelessness (35%).<sup>7</sup> Youth tend to avoid adult homeless centers because they are often victimized there, and instead choose to live with relatives, strangers, or on the streets in youth encampments where they are difficult to find. On the streets, youth are particularly vulnerable to violence and sexual exploitation. Experiencing homelessness can lead to lifelong trauma and victimization, which can have significant adverse impacts on an adolescent's biological and social development.

A report by Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority found that half of chronically homeless adults were homeless during the ages of 18 to 24. Experts say that this transitional age is a critical window for targeted intervention to help youth become self-sufficient and prevent chronic homelessness. This bill establishes grant funding for housing, supportive services and shelters specifically for homeless youth.

5) *Cannabis Tax.* In 2016, California voters approved Proposition 64, which legalized marijuana and imposed taxes on the retail sale of cannabis and cannabis products. The Proposition allocates a certain percentage of the generated funds into a Youth Education, Prevention, Early Intervention and Treatment Account to support youth programs on substance use disorder education, prevention, and treatment, and prioritizes programs directed towards homeless youth and out-of-school youth with substance use disorders. In 2016, LAO estimated that the cannabis tax revenues could range from the high hundreds of million to \$1 billion annually.<sup>8</sup>

Studies indicate 50-84% of homeless youth may be abusing illicit drugs or alcohol.<sup>9</sup> Also, according to researchers at the National Institute on Drug Abuse, homeless youth who were living on the streets have much higher rates of substance abuse compared with those in shelters or at home.<sup>10</sup> This bill appropriates up to \$60 million from this account annually for grant programs to provide housing and supportive services for homeless youth, and requires

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> https://www.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/2017-AHAR-Part-1.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> http://www.lao.ca.gov/BallotAnalysis/Proposition?number=64&year=2016

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> National Clearinghouse on Families and Youth, "What Substance Abuse Treatments Work for Homeless Youth?" Famiy and Youth Services Bureau, November 2015; "What Can We Do to Reduce Substance Use Among Homeless Youth?" April 2013

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> https://archives.drugabuse.gov/news-events/nida-notes/drug-abuse-among-runaway-homeless-youths-calls-focused-outreach-solutions

services related to outreach, education, and treatment for homeless youth with substance abuse disorders. The approach of this bill is that providing housing and shelter is a necessary precondition for providing education, treatment and drug prevention to homeless youth or youth at risk of homelessness.

- 6) *Housing First.* SB 1380 (Mitchell, Chapter 847, Statutes of 2016) established the Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council to oversee implementation of the Housing First regulations and coordinate resources, benefits, and services to prevent and end homelessness in California. This bill requires that the Office have a designated representative on this council. Housing First is the evidence-based model that uses housing as a tool, rather than a reward, for recovery and that centers on providing or connecting homeless people to permanent housing as quickly as possible. Housing First providers offer services as needed and requested on a voluntary basis and not make housing contingent on participation in services. This bill aligns with the Housing First guidelines required for any state program that provides housing and supportive services to youth experiencing homelessness.
- 7) Housing and Community Development. Last year, the Legislature passed and the governor signed a package of 15 housing bills as a comprehensive package. Together, this package provided an ongoing source of funding for affordable housing construction, a \$4 billion housing bond to provide an immediate infusion of funds into housing for veterans, and low- and moderate-income families, as well as several streamlining and land use measures designed to facilitate and foster opportunities for increased housing production. In order to implement that package, the Department of Housing and Community Development is requesting about 81 new staff in this year's budget, as well as 65 additional staff in the next two budget years. Given the workload HCD is already under, the author moving forward may wish to consider whether the roles of the Office of Homeless Youth, as specified, could be served by another agency, department, or the Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council.

# **RELATED LEGISLATION:**

AB 2602 (McCarty, 2018) — establishes an additional homeless youth emergency service project in the County of Sacramento. *This bill is currently in Assembly Appropriations Committee.* 

AB 1406 (Gloria, 2017) — would establish the Homeless Youth Housing Program to award grants to up to 10 recipients, as defined, that demonstrate the ability to contract with service providers capable of providing housing assistance and supportive services to homeless youth with the goal of transitioning youth towards

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self-sufficiency. This bill has been held as a two-year bill in Senate Transportation and Housing Committee.

SB 1380 (Mitchell, Chapter 847, Statutes of 2016) — established the Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council to oversee implementation of the Housing First regulations and identify resources, benefits, and services to prevent and end homelessness in California.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: Yes Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: No

POSITIONS: (Communicated to the committee before noon on Wednesday, April 18,2018.)

# SUPPORT:

California Coalition for Youth (co-sponsor) Corporation for Supportive Housing (co-sponsor) Equality California (co-sponsor) Housing California (co-sponsor) John Burton Advocates for Youth (co-sponsor) Tipping Point (co-sponsor) Aspiranet Barnabas Charity Outreach Bill Wilson Center Black Sisters Sharing California Alliance of Child and Family Services California Apartment Association California State Association of Counties California State University, Bakersfield Casa de Amparo Children's Law Center of California City of Long Beach City of San Jose County Behavioral Health Directors Association County Welfare Directors Association David & Margaret Youth and Family Services **Doing Good Works** EA Family Services Fastenau and Associates

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First Place for Youth Foster Care Counts Fresno Economic Opportunities Commission Hillsides Imperial Valley Regional Occupational Program Project ACE Jovenes, Inc. Kamali'i Foster Family Agency Kings/Tulare Homeless Alliance Larkin Street Youth Services Learning Rights Law Center Los Angeles City College Los Angeles County Office of Education Los Angeles Dependency Lawyers, Inc. Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority Los Angeles LGBT Center LSS of Northern California National Association of Social Workers - California Chapter National Center for Youth Law National Foster Youth Institute New Alternatives, Inc. New Morning Youth & Family Services Non-Profit Housing Association of Northern California Oxnard College PATH Persistence Plus Public Counsel Redwood Community Action Agency's Youth Service Bureau **Riverside City College** Sacramento County Board of Supervisors Sacramento LGBT Community Center Safe Place for Youth San Diego Youth Services San Francisco LGBT Community Center Sanctuary of Hope Santa Rosa Junior College Social Advocates for Youth South County CAL-SOAP

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Sunny Hills Services THP Plus TLC Child & Family Services Trinity County Office of Education United Friends of the Children Unity Care Group, Inc. University of San Diego Urban Counties of California Youth for Change Youth Policy Institute 1 individual

# **OPPOSITION:**

None received.

-- END --

#### AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 12, 2018

#### AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 6, 2018

## SENATE BILL

#### No. 918

Introduced by Senator Wiener (Principal coauthor: Assembly Member Rubio) (Coauthors: Senators Allen, Beall, Glazer, Hill, Leyva, and Portantino) (Coauthors: Assembly Members Chiu, Cooley, Lackey, Maienschein,

Mayes, Reyes, Steinorth, Mark Stone, and Thurmond)

#### January 22, 2018

An act to amend Section 8257 of, and to add Chapter 6.1 (commencing with Section 13725) to Part 3 of Division 9 of, the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to homeless youth, and making an appropriation therefor.

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 918, as amended, Wiener. Homeless Youth Act of 2018.

Existing law establishes various programs, including, among others, the Emergency Housing and Assistance Program, homeless youth emergency service pilot projects, and Housing First and the Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council, to provide assistance to homeless persons.

This bill would establish the Office of Homeless Youth in the Department of Housing and Community Development. The bill would set forth the duties of the office, including, but not limited to, setting specific, measurable goals aimed at preventing and ending homelessness among youth in the state. The bill would require the office to identify funding, policy, and practice gaps across state systems that serve, or hold the potential to serve, young people experiencing homelessness;

homelessness in California, develop specific recommendations and timelines for addressing these gaps, and report to the Legislature, as specified. The bill would require the office to oversee and administer specified grant programs for young people experiencing homelessness and their families, which would be primarily funded by funds provided to the State Department of Health Care Services from the Youth Education, Prevention, Early Intervention, and Treatment Account. The bill would prioritize the various funding sources for grant programs established by the office to support young people experiencing homelessness, as specified. The bill would make an appropriation to the office from the General Fund in the amount of the difference between other specified funding received from the State Department of Social Services for purposes of the grant program and \$60,000,000. The bill would specify that the grant funds would be used to supplement existing levels of service and not to supplant any existing funding. The bill would allow no more than 40% of the total funds granted in a given year to be used to establish, expand, or operate shelter programs.

This bill would impose criteria and requirements for agencies eligible for grant funding to operate a homeless youth program or shelter program, and would require preference for funding to be given to agencies with certain characteristics, including those that propose to provide services in geographic areas where no similar services are provided and there is a demonstrated need for those services. The bill would require a grant proposal to identify how it intends to ensure that participating youth receive a continuum of services, including, but not limited to, drug abuse education and prevention services, mental and physical health care, education, treatment, and prevention services, screening, assessment, and treatment or referral for behavioral and physical health care services, and aftercare and follow-up followup services. The bill would require a grantee to submit data and annual progress reports to the office and agree to meet quality improvement goals, accept technical assistance, and submit to annual site monitoring visits by the office, as specified.

Existing law establishes the Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council to oversee the implementation of the Housing First guidelines and regulations and, among other things, identify resources, benefits, and services that can be accessed to prevent and end homelessness in California. Existing law requires the Governor to appoint up to 15 members to the council, as specified.

This bill would require the council membership to also include a representative of the Office of Homeless Youth.

Vote:  $\frac{2}{3}$ . Appropriation: yes. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. This act shall be known, and may be cited, as the 2 Homeless Youth Act of 2018.

3 SEC. 2. Section 8257 of the Welfare and Institutions Code is 4 amended to read:

5 8257. (a) Within 180 days of the effective date of the measure 6 adding this chapter, the Governor shall create a Homeless 7 Coordinating and Financing Council.

8 (b) The council shall have the following goals:

9

(1) To oversee implementation of this chapter.

10 (2) To identify mainstream resources, benefits, and services that 11 can be accessed to prevent and end homelessness in California.

12 (3) To create partnerships among state agencies and departments,

local government agencies, participants in the United States
Department of Housing and Urban Development's Continuum of
Care Program, federal agencies, the United States Interagency
Council on Homelessness, nonprofit entities working to end
homelessness, homeless services providers, and the private sector,
for the purpose of arriving at specific strategies to end
homelessness.

(4) To promote systems integration to increase efficiency and
effectiveness while focusing on designing systems to address the
needs of people experiencing homelessness, including
unaccompanied youth under 25 years of age.

24 (5) To coordinate existing funding and applications for
25 competitive funding. Any action taken pursuant to this paragraph
26 shall not restructure or change any existing allocations or allocation
27 formulas.

28 (6) To make policy and procedural recommendations to 29 legislators and other governmental entities.

30 (7) To identify and seek funding opportunities for state entities
31 that have programs to end homelessness, including, but not limited
32 to, federal and philanthropic funding opportunities, and to facilitate
33 and coordinate those state entities' efforts to obtain that funding.

(8) To broker agreements between state agencies and
 departments and between state agencies and departments and local
 jurisdictions to align and coordinate resources, reduce
 administrative burdens of accessing existing resources, and foster
 common applications for services, operating, and capital funding.
 (9) To serve as a statewide facilitator, coordinator, and policy
 development resource on ending homelessness in California.

8 (10) To report to the Governor, federal Cabinet members, and 9 the Legislature on homelessness and work to reduce homelessness.

10 (11) To ensure accountability and results in meeting the 11 strategies and goals of the council.

12 (12) To identify and implement strategies to fight homelessness13 in small communities and rural areas.

(13) To create a statewide data system or warehouse that collects 14 local data through Homeless Management Information Systems, 15 with the ultimate goal of matching data on homelessness to 16 17 programs impacting homeless recipients of state programs, such as Medi-Cal (Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 14000) of Part 18 3 of Division 9 of the Welfare and Institutions Code) and 19 20 CalWORKS (Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 11200) of Part 3 of Division 9 of the Welfare and Institutions Code). 2.1

22 (c) (1) The Governor shall appoint up to 15 members of the 23 council as follows:

24 (A) A representative from the Department of Housing and25 Community Development.

26 (B) A representative of the State Department of Social Services.

27 (C) A representative of the California Housing Finance Agency.

(D) A representative of the State Department of Health CareServices.

30 (E) A representative of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

31 (F) A representative of the Department of Corrections and 32 Rehabilitation.

33 (G) A representative from the California Tax Credit Allocation34 Committee in the Treasurer's office.

35 (H) A representative of the Victim Services Program within the

36 Division of Grants Management within the Office of Emergency37 Services.

38 (I) A representative of the Office of Homeless-Youth. Youth 39 established under Section 13727.

40 (J) A formerly homeless person who lives in California.

1 (K) Two representatives of local agencies or organizations that

2 participate in the United States Department of Housing and Urban

3 Development's Continuum of Care Program.

4 (L) State advocates or other members of the public or state 5 agencies, according to the Governor's discretion.

6 (2) The Senate Committee on Rules and the Speaker of the 7 Assembly shall each appoint one representative of the council from 8 two different stakeholder organizations.

9 (3) The council may, at its discretion, invite stakeholders, 10 individuals who have experienced homelessness, members of 11 philanthropic communities, and experts to participate in meetings 12 or provide information to the council.

13 (d) The council shall hold public meetings at least once every14 quarter.

15 (e) The members of the council shall serve at the pleasure of 16 the Governor.

(f) Within existing funding, the council may establish working
groups, task forces, or other structures from within its membership
or with outside members to assist it in its work. Working groups,
task forces, or other structures established by the council shall
determine their own meeting schedules.

(g) The members of the council shall serve without
compensation, except that members of the council who are, or
have been, homeless may receive reimbursement for travel, per
diem, or other expenses.

26 (h) The Department of Housing and Community Development27 shall provide staff for the council.

(i) The members of the council may enter into memoranda of
understanding with other members of the council to achieve the
goals set forth in this chapter, as necessary, in order to facilitate
communication and cooperation between the entities the members
of the council represent.

33 SEC. 3. Chapter 6.1 (commencing with Section 13725) is added
34 to Part 3 of Division 9 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, to
35 read:

36 37

Chapter 6.1. Homeless Youth Act of 2018

38 39

13725. The Legislature finds and declares as follows:

1 (a) Runaway and homeless youth are young people 12 to 24 2 years of age, inclusive, who have the least access to essential 3 opportunities and supports.

4 (b) The prevalence of runaways and homelessness among youth 5 is staggering. Studies suggest that between 1.6 and 2.8 million 6 youth up to 24 years of age in the United States experience 7 homelessness every year. A disproportionate number of young 8 people experiencing homelessness are gay, lesbian, bisexual, or 9 transgender.

(c) California has the second highest rate of unsheltered young
 people experiencing homelessness in the nation, and the number
 is growing.

(d) Thirty-one percent of all young people experiencing
homelessness in the United States live in California, yet two-thirds
of the state's counties lack basic services for young people
experiencing homelessness, such as shelter. including shelter,
mental and behavioral services, family maintenance and
strengthening, and substance abuse treatment programs.

(e) Young Research indicates that young people experiencing
homelessness are more likely to have experienced trauma and
abuse, used or to begin using drugs and alcohol due to their
experiences of trauma and abuse prior to becoming homeless or
as a result of homelessness, including commercial sexual
exploitation, and to use drugs and alcohol, with consequences that
are harmful, dangerous, and often tragic. exploitation.

(f) With the adoption by the voters of Proposition 64, the Adult
Use of Marijuana Act, there is an opportunity for new funding to
support various programs and services for young people
experiencing homelessness, including those with substance use
disorders.

(g) In furthering the goals of the Youth Education, Prevention,
Early Intervention and Treatment Account, the Legislature has
created the Homeless Youth Act of 2018 to improve prevention
and early intervention support services, low-barrier and diverse
housing opportunities, and posthousing and follow-up services for
young people experiencing homelessness, including those with
substance use disorders.

38 13726. The following definitions apply for purposes of this 39 chapter:

97

40 (a) "Act" means the Homeless Youth Act of 2018.

1 (b) "Continuum of care" has the same meaning as defined 2 Section 578.3 of Title 24 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

--- 7 ----

3 (c) "Fund" means the Youth Education, Prevention, Early 4 Intervention and Treatment Account created in the California

5 Cannabis Tax Fund created pursuant to Part 14.5 (commencing6 with Section 34010) of the Revenue and Taxation Code.

7 (d) "Homeless youth" has the same meaning means an 8 unaccompanied youth between 12 and 24 years of age, inclusive, 9 who is experiencing homelessness, as defined in subsection (2) of

10 Section 725 of the federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance 11 Act (42 U.S.C. Sec. 11434a(2)). "Homeless youth" includes

12 unaccompanied youth who are pregnant or parenting.

(e) "Office" means the Office of Homeless Youth establishedunder Section 13727.

15 (f) "Project" means a homeless youth housing project.

(g) "Shelter program" means a homeless youth shelter program.
13727. (a) The Office of Homeless Youth is established within
the Department of Housing and Community Development. The

office shall be headed by the Director of the Office of HomelessYouth, who shall report directly to the Director of Housing andCommunity Development.

22 (b) It is the intent of the Legislature that the role and 23 responsibilities of the office shall include all of the following:

24 (1) Setting goals to prevent and end homelessness among25 California's youth.

26 (2) Improving the safety, health, and welfare of young people27 experiencing homelessness in the state.

(3) Increasing system integration and coordinating efforts to
 prevent homelessness among youth who are currently or formerly
 involved in the child welfare services or the juvenile justice system.

31 (4) Leading efforts to coordinate a spectrum of funding, policy,
32 and practice efforts related to young people experiencing
33 homelessness.

34 (5) Ensuring homeless minors who have experienced
35 maltreatment and are eligible to be dependent children under
36 Section 300 have timely access to the child welfare system.

(c) In order to coordinate a spectrum of funding, policy, and
practice efforts related to young people experiencing homelessness,
the office shall do all of the following:

1 (1) Identify funding, policy, and practice gaps across-state 2 systems that serve, or hold the potential to serve, young people 3 experiencing-homelessness, homelessness in California, and 4 develop specific recommendations and timelines for addressing 5 these gaps. These recommendations and timelines shall be reported 6 to the Legislature by December 31, 2019.

7 (A) Services and programs to be considered in the review and 8 report described in this paragraph shall include, but are not limited 9 to, family support and reunification services, social and emotional 10 wellness and mental health services, street and community outreach 11 programs and drop-in centers, low barrier and diverse housing 12 opportunities, and posthousing and follow-up services.

(B) (i) A report submitted under this paragraph shall be
submitted in compliance with Section 9795 of the Government
Code.

16 (ii) Pursuant to Section 10231.5 of the Government Code, the 17 requirement to submit a report under this paragraph shall be 18 inoperative on January 1, 2023.

(2) Coordinate with young people experiencing homelessness,
the State Department of Social Services, other appropriate state *and county* agencies and departments, the Homeless Coordinating
and Financing Council established pursuant to Section 8257, the
state advisory group established pursuant to Section 1785, and
other stakeholders to inform policy, practices, and programs.

(3) Provide technical assistance and program development
support to increase capacity among new and existing service
providers to best meet statewide needs, particularly in areas where
services for young people experiencing homelessness have not
been established, and provide support to service providers in
making evidence-informed and data-driven decisions.

(d) The office shall set and measure progress towards goals to
prevent and end homelessness among youth in California by doing
all of the following:

(1) Setting specific, measurable goals aimed at preventing and
ending homelessness among youth in the state. These goals shall
include, but not be limited to, the following:

37 (A) Measurably decreasing the number of young people38 experiencing homelessness in the state.

39 (B) Measurably increasing permanency rates among young 40 people experiencing homelessness by decreasing the length and occurrences of young people experiencing homelessness caused
 by a youth's separation from family or a legal guardian.

3 (C) Decreasing the duration and frequency of experiences of 4 homelessness among California's youth.

5 (2) Defining outcome measures and gathering data related to 6 the goals.

(A) The office shall develop and collect data on county-level
and statewide measures, including, but not limited to, the number
of young people experiencing homelessness *in California* and their
dependency status, delinquency status, family reunification status,
housing status, program participation, and runaway status.

(B) The office shall initiate data-sharing agreements with the
 appropriate parties as needed to carry out data collection pursuant
 to this subdivision and in accordance with all applicable state and
 federal privacy and confidentiality laws and regulations.

16 (B) Data collection and sharing among state and county 17 agencies and service providers shall be a condition upon the receipt of any state funding for programs related to youth 18 19 homelessness and its prevention. All grantees shall be required to 20 share with the department any relevant data from their Homeless 21 Management Information Systems. Data collection and sharing 22 pursuant to this chapter shall be conducted and maintained in 23 accordance with all applicable state and federal privacy and 24 confidentiality laws and regulations.

(C) The office shall seek data from any and all relevant sources,
including the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS),
if available, in order to meet the requirements of this section.

(3) Submitting an annual report to the Legislature on these goals,
measures, and data each year by December 31. A report submitted
pursuant to this paragraph shall be submitted in compliance with
Section 9795 of the Government Code.

32 (4) Collecting and reporting data regarding the grant programs
 33 developed pursuant to this chapter by doing all of the following:
 34 (A)-

*(4) (A)* The office shall collect data from grantees and utilize
HMIS data to the extent possible to ensure that appropriate and
high-quality services are being delivered to young people
experiencing homelessness. Data collected pursuant to this
paragraph shall include, but not be limited to, all of the following:
(i) The number of young people served each year by the grantee.

(ii) The dependency status, delinquency status, housing status,
 family reunification status, and runaway status of the young people
 served each year by the grantee. grantee at the time of referral.

4 (iii) The type and number of services utilized by the young
5 people served by the grantee each year, as outlined in subdivision
6 (h) of Section 13728.

7 (iv) The types of housing assistance accessed by the young 8 people served by the grantee each year, as outlined in subdivision 9 (i) of Section 13728.

10 (v) The distribution of the length of time each young person 11 receives services from the grantee.

(vi) Any available outcome data for the youth served by the
grantee, including, but not limited to, housing stabilization, duration
and number of experiences of homelessness prior to, while, and
after receiving family reunification services, educational
achievement, skills acquisition, and employment.

(B) The office shall provide a report to the Legislature on these
data by December 31 of each year, commencing in 2019. A report
submitted under this subparagraph shall be submitted in compliance
with Section 9795 of the Government Code.

(e) The office shall develop and administer grant programs to
 support young people experiencing homelessness and aimed at
 preventing and ending homelessness among California's youth.

(1) The office shall oversee and administer the grant programs
developed pursuant to this chapter, and shall do all of the following:
(A) Solicit annual progress reports from each grantee and
annually review each program for effectiveness in meeting stated
project outcomes and in engaging in continuous quality
improvement activities.

(B) Conduct monitoring visits to each grantee at least once per
 year in order to provide technical assistance in areas of identified
 need for improvement.

33 (C) Collect and report on data pursuant to paragraph (4) of 34 subdivision (d).

(2) The office shall also develop grant programs to support
families and family reunification services, social and emotional
wellness and mental health services, street and community outreach
programs and drop-in centers, and posthousing and follow-up
services.

1 (A) The office shall oversee and administer these grant programs 2 using the same requirements established in paragraph (1).

3 (B) The office shall collect and report on data in the same 4 manner outlined in paragraph (4) of subdivision (d).

5 (f) The office shall collaborate with the Homeless Coordinating 6 and Financing Council to adopt guidelines and regulations pursuant 7 to Section 8256.

8 13728. (a) The homeless youth housing project grant program 9 grant programs established under subdivision (e) of Section 13727 shall be administered with funding as described in this section. 10 11 Grant funds provided under this chapter shall be used to supplement 12 existing levels of service and shall not be used to supplant existing 13 local, state, or federal funding. Grants provided under this chapter 14 shall be awarded in a three-year grant cycle, and funded as follows: 15 (1) Funds provided to the office by the State Department of Health Care Services from the amount allocated to that department 16 17 allocated Primary funding shall be from any funds received by the 18 office from the Youth Education, Prevention, Early Intervention 19 and Treatment-Account, Account established pursuant to 20 subdivision (f) of Section 34019 of the Revenue and Taxation 21 Code. Code, for programs that are determined by the appropriate 22 agency to meet the requirements of that subdivision. Funds received 23 pursuant to this paragraph may not be expended for administrative 24 duties of the office.

(2) Secondary funding shall be from funds provided to the office
from other funding appropriated by the Legislature for purposes
of this chapter.

(3) Tertiary funding may be provided by gifts and donations
made to the office for purposes of this chapter.

30 <del>(2)</del>

(4) If the annual amount provided pursuant to paragraph (1)
paragraphs (1) to (3), inclusive, is less than sixty million dollars
(\$60,000,000), funds in the amount of the difference between the
amount provided and sixty million dollars (\$60,000,000), which
is hereby appropriated from the General Fund to the office for
purposes of the grant program.

(b) An entity eligible to apply for funds under this chapter and
to operate a homeless youth program or shelter program shall be
either of the following:

1 (1) A private, nonprofit agency with a demonstrated record of 2 success and experience in the delivery of services to young people 3 experiencing homelessness or at-risk youth. The agency shall include in its application a letter from the local continuum of care 4 5 entity or county that identifies whether the applicant participates in the local planning process for addressing homelessness, if the 6 7 agency is proposing to serve a geographic area covered by a 8 continuum of care.

9 (2) A continuum of care administrative entity with a 10 demonstrated record of success. The entity may use no more than 11 5 percent of granted funds for administrative purposes.

12 (c) Preference *for funding* shall be given to agencies that 13 demonstrate each of the following:

14 (1) Involvement of a network of youth-serving agencies in the 15 delivery of services to young people experiencing homelessness.

16 (2) Participation in a local continuum of care.

17 (3) Utilization of the HMIS.

(4) Participation in development of a local, youth-centeredcoordinated entry system, including diversion.

20 (5) An agreement to work together with other entities to develop 21 a local plan to reduce homelessness among homeless youth.

(d) Preference *for funding* may be given to agencies that propose
to provide services in geographic areas where similar services are
not provided and there is a demonstrated need for those services.
(e) An applicant that intends to serve minors shall be subject to
the following requirements: a mandated reporter under the Child

Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act (Article 2.5 (commencing with
Section 11164) of Chapter 2 of Title 1 of Part 4 of the Penal Code),
including an annual training requirement.

30 (1) All minors shall be assessed for maltreatment as a part of

31 the assessment described in subdivision (c) of Section 1502.35 of

32 the Health and Safety Code within 72 hours of admission to the

33 shelter, and if indicated, reported to the county child welfare agency

to determine if they fall under the jurisdiction of Section 300.
 (2) At least once per year, applicant personnel that interact with
 minors and youth shall be trained on how to identify, screen, and

37 assess child abuse and neglect.

38 (3) At least once per year, applicant personnel that interact with

39 minors and youth shall be trained on how to make a report to child
 40 welfare services.

1 (f) Receipt of housing or supportive services by a program 2 funded under this chapter does not constitute the provision of 3 support as specified in subdivision (g) of Section 300 and does not 4 prevent a minor from being adjudged a dependent child of the 5 court.

6 (g) Each applicant for funding under this chapter shall 7 demonstrate that services will be provided within the Positive - 8 Youth Development framework and demonstrate that policies and 9 procedures address cultural competence, including language 10 appropriateness, cultural sensitivity, and the complex identities related to sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, and 11 12 gender expression, so that all participants are assured that programs 13 are safe, inclusive, and nonstigmatizing by design and in operation. 14 (h) (1) A grant proposal shall identify how it intends to ensure that participating youth receive services. It is the intent of the 15 Legislature to prevent or reduce the incidence of substance use 16 17 disorders among homeless youth by providing services in the most 18 efficient and effective way, including housing if appropriate, and 19 to reduce the exposure to trauma as a result of homelessness that has been shown to be a precursor to substance use disorders. A 20 21 grant proposal shall identify how the services to be provided will 22 address substance use disorders or the risk of substance abuse 23 among the population it intends to serve. A proposal shall identify 24 how it intends to ensure that participating youth receive services 25 that provide education, prevention, early intervention, and timely 26 treatment services for youth. The service provider shall proactively 27 engage homeless youth to offer a wide array of supportive services 28 that are designed to meet the needs of each participant, participant 29 and his or her family, if appropriate, including, but not limited to, 30 those listed in paragraph (2). The service provider shall not prevent 31 a youth from entering housing or discharge or evict a youth from 32 a housing program on the basis of lack of participation in 33 supportive services.

34 (2) Services *The continuum of services shall* include, but are 35 not limited to, all of the following:

36 (A) Drug abuse education and prevention education, prevention,
 37 and treatment services.

38 (B) Transitional living plan and services.

39 (C) Access to education and employment assistance, assistance,

40 *including literacy and vocational training.* 

#### SB 918

8

(D) Independent living skill development, economic stability, 1

2 and mobility services.

(E) Counseling and case management services. 3

4 (F) Mental and physical health care.

(F) Screening, assessment, and treatment or referral of 5 behavioral and physical health care services. 6

7 (G) Services for pregnant and parenting youth.

(H) Legal services.

(I) Family support, including family reunification when safe 9 and appropriate and engagement and intervention, when 10

11 appropriate.

(J) Family-finding services to identify appropriate family 12 13 members.

14 (K) Adequate supervision of minors, and services for all 15 participants.

16 (L) Outreach to young people experiencing homelessness.

(M) Aftercare and follow-up services. followup services, 17

18 including relapse prevention.

19 (N) Housing navigation services.

(i) A-recipient grantee shall use grant funds to establish or 20 21 expand programs that assess the housing and services needs of homeless vouth, youth or youth at risk of homelessness, establish 22 a plan to meet those needs in collaboration with the participant, 23 24 and provide evidence-based housing and services models to participants. Projects that may be funded under this project include: 25 (1) Rental assistance. 26

27 (2) Nontime-limited supportive housing.

28 (3) Transitional housing.

29 (4) Post-transitional housing assistance.

30 (5) Rapid rehousing.

31 (6) Flexible rental subsidies.

32 (7) Host homes.

33 (8) Shelters for homeless minors, pursuant to Section 1502.35

of the Health and Safety Code. 34

(9) Shelters for homeless youth. 35

(j) (1) A shelter program established under this chapter shall 36 provide the services described in Section 13701 and, depending 37 · 38 on the individual needs of each participant, shall provide participants with drug abuse education, and prevention and 39 40 treatment services, as appropriate.

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(2) A shelter program shall provide outreach to homeless youth,
 as described in Section 576.101 of Title 24 of the Code of Federal
 Regulations, and, depending on the individual needs of each
 participant, shall provide, or refer homeless youth to, drug abuse
 treatment programs, as appropriate.

6 (3) A shelter program may use subcontractors to fulfill the 7 requirements of paragraphs (1) and (2).

8 (4) No more than 40 percent of the total funds granted in a given
9 year may be used to establish, expand, or operate shelter programs.
10 (k) Each grantee shall submit *data and* annual progress reports
11 to the office and agree to meet continuous quality improvement

12 goals, accept technical assistance, and submit to annual site13 monitoring visits by the office.

UPFICE OF THE CITY CLERK OAKLAND 18 APR 26 PM 3:58

Approved as to Form and Legality

City Attorney's Office

# OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

# **RESOLUTION NO.**

C.M.S.

# INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBER DAN KALB

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 918 (WIENER) THAT WOULD CREATE THE OFFICE OF HOMELESS YOUTH, SET ITS GOALS TO PREVENT AND END YOUTH HOMELESSNESS IN CALIFORNIA, AND ESTABLISH \$60 MILLION IN GRANTS ADMINISTERED BY THE OFFICE

WHEREAS, the prevalence of runaways and homelessness among youths is staggering. Studies suggest that between 1.6 and 2.8 million youth up to 24 years of age in the United States experience homelessness every year. A disproportionate number of young people experiencing homelessness are gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgender; and

WHEREAS, thirty-one percent of all young people experiencing homelessness in the United States live in California, yet two-thirds of the state's counties lack basic services for young people experiencing homelessness, including shelter, mental and behavioral services, family maintenance and strengthening, and substance abuse treatment programs; and

WHEREAS, in 2017 there were 15,458 unaccompanied homeless youth in California without a safe place to call home, including youth ages 12 to 24 living in cars, parks, abandoned buildings, bus or train stations, on the street, or in other places not intended for human habitation; and

WHEREAS, solving youth homelessness is a critical part of ending California's larger crisis, with one study of chronically homeless adults finding that half of them experienced homelessness as youth; and

WHEREAS, California currently lacks a clear strategy to prevent and end homelessness among young people in the state., with policy and funding scattered across various state agencies and departments; and

**WHEREAS**, Senate Bill (SB) 918 (Wiener) would (1) create the Office of Homeless Youth within the Department of Housing and Community Development and require it to set specific goals to prevent and end youth homelessness in California and to monitor progress toward those goals and (2) establish \$60 million in grants from the cannabis tax and other funds to be administered by the Office of Homeless Youth to provide social services, including but not limited to rental assistance, transitional housing, drug abuse prevention, mental and physical health care, education, and employment assistance; and

**WHEREAS**, SB 918 is supported by Equality California, California Alliance of Child and Family Services, many other organizations, and various local governments; now, therefore be it

**RESOLVED**: That the Oakland City Council hereby endorses SB 918 and urges the California State Legislature and Governor Jerry Brown to support its enactment into law.

#### IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - BROOKS, CAMPBELL WASHINGTON, GALLO, GIBSON MCELHANEY, GUILLÉN, KALB, KAPLAN, AND PRESIDENT REID

NOES -

#### ABSENT -

ABSTENTION -

ATTEST:

LATONDA SIMMONS City Clerk and Clerk of the Council of the City of Oakland, California