



Memorandum

**TO: RULES AND OPEN
GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE**

FROM: Leslye Krutko

SUBJECT: SEE BELOW

DATE: June 10, 2009

Approved *Deanne Jatur*

Date *6/11/09*

**Council District: Citywide
SNI: N/A**

**SUBJECT: SUPPORT FOR STATE LEGISLATION AB 1177 (FONG AND HILL) –
INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON HOMELESS**

RECOMMENDATION

The Housing Department recommends that:

1. The Mayor and City Council support AB 1177 (Fong and Hill); and
2. The Committee provide a one-week turn around for Mayor and City Council review.

OUTCOME

If the Rules and Open Government Committee and the Mayor and City Council accept staff's recommendation, the City's State lobbyist may begin seeking support for AB 1177 (Fong and Hill).

BACKGROUND

The 2009-2010 State and federal legislative cycles feature 145 State and 70 federal legislative proposals that address issues related to affordable housing development, construction, homelessness, special needs populations, and finance. One of these bills is of particular interest to the City's Ten-Year Strategy to End Homelessness. An analysis of AB 1177 is attached to this memo for the Rules and Open Government Committee's consideration.

ANALYSIS

A fact sheet and analysis of AB 1177 is attached.

PUBLIC OUTREACH/INTEREST

- Criteria 1:** Requires Council action on the use of public funds equal to \$1 million or greater. **(Required: Website Posting)**
- Criteria 2:** Adoption of a new or revised policy that may have implications for public health, safety, quality of life, or financial/economic vitality of the City. **(Required: E-mail and Website Posting)**
- Criteria 3:** Consideration of proposed changes to service delivery, programs, staffing that may have impacts to community services and have been identified by staff, Council or a Community group that requires special outreach. **(Required: E-mail, Website Posting, Community Meetings, Notice in appropriate newspapers)**

This legislative item does not meet any of the above criteria.

COORDINATION

This memorandum was coordinated with the Intergovernmental Relations Office in the City Manager's Office, the City's State and federal lobbyists, and the City Attorney's Office.

POLICY ALIGNMENT

The attachment and analysis are consistent with the Council-adopted 2009 Legislative Guiding Principles, and the Council-adopted guidelines.

CEQA

Not a project.


LESEYE KRUTKO
Director of Housing

For more information call Melissa Whatley, Policy Manager, at (408) 975-4418

ATTACHMENT

AB 1177 (Fong and Hill) – Interagency Council on Homeless

What's the issue the bill is trying to resolve?

AB 1177 (Fong and Hill) creates a State inter-agency council to coordinate efforts to combat chronic homelessness. The California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Council) mission is to construct cross-agency and community cooperation in responding to homelessness, to use a more efficient and supportive method in implementing evidence-based approaches to address homelessness, and, to the extent possible, plan to end homelessness in the state. AB 1177 requires that the Council meet quarterly, and include at least one representative with decision making authority from fifteen State Departments as well as members from the philanthropic community, stakeholder organizations, and at least two individuals who have experienced homelessness.

Specifically, AB 1177 directs the Council to achieve the following:

- Act as the lead for coordinating and planning the State's response to homelessness;
- Solicit input and suggestions from stakeholders and the public, on the most effective strategies to address homelessness;
- Identify best practices from other states in combating homelessness;
- Create a plan for Council actions by the end of the first year after the initial meeting to implement recommendations for policy, regulatory, and resource changes needed to accomplish objectives, as well as each agency's responsibilities on the Council;
- Publish a plan to reduce or end homelessness within three years;
- Collaborate on planning for discharge of people likely to become homeless after leaving institutions;
- Create, not later than January 1, 2015, a centralized database on homelessness;
- Assist, not later than January 1, 2017, in the coordination of a statewide continuum of care;
- Identify private and public funding partnerships; and
- Requires the council to operate within the current budget of each department and agency represented.

How would the passage of this bill affect San José?

California has the largest homeless population in the nation, but is the only large state without an interagency council on homelessness. More than 10 California agencies administer programs affecting homelessness, but there is no official coordination to ensure efficiency. According to the Corporation for Supportive Housing, though 12% of the nation's residents live in California, about 26% of the nation's homeless population resides in California. With these statistics, California not only has the highest population of homeless people, but the highest ratio of homeless people. Whereas the national incidence of homelessness is one in 400, one of every 105 Californians is homeless on any given night. Finally, the creation of a California Interagency Council on Homelessness would greatly assist in San Jose's efforts to end homelessness by providing support at the State level for funding, program development, policy implementation, and multi-jurisdictional coordination.

ATTACHMENT

What is staff's Proposed Position?

Staff recommends support for AB 1177. AB 1177 represents a significant step forward in eliminating the state's fragmented approach to ending homelessness, and would provide hope to the hundreds of thousands of Californians homeless each year by holding regular meetings among agency personnel to ensure program requirements maximize efficiency and minimize conflicts, the development of administrative policies based on best practices, increased coordination with regional and local government, and the identification of available federal and private funding the State could access. Finally, AB 1177 would use existing resources and, if available, non-General Fund resources, making it cost-neutral and an all-around win for every agency involved.

Who are the bill's supporters and opponents?

AB 1177 is co-sponsored by the Corporation for Supportive Housing and Housing California. Supporters for AB 1177 include: Interagency Council to End Homelessness, Sacramento; Los Angeles Coalition to End Hunger and Homelessness; Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority; Non-Profit Housing Association of Northern California; United Homeless Healthcare Partners; Yolo County Homeless and Poverty Action Coalition; Yolo Wayfarer Center; Western Center on Law and Poverty; and NAMI California. Currently, there is no registered opposition.

What is the current status of the measure?

On June 4, 2009, AB 1177 was passed by the Assembly. AB 1177 is currently in the Senate and awaiting committee assignment.