

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies, proposed to or pending before a local, state or federal governmental body or agency, must have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, nearly 4,600 youth in California find themselves alone each year, despite efforts to ensure youth exit California's child welfare system to family and other permanent connections, according to the University of California, Berkeley's California Child Welfare Indicators Project; and

WHEREAS, in a recent survey of California foster youth, one quarter of former foster youth experienced homelessness in California between the ages 21-23, with an additional 28% reporting that they had "couch surfed; and

WHEREAS, 35% of unsheltered adults identified in the 2022 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count, a total of 15,612 individuals, had experienced the foster care or juvenile justice systems; and

WHEREAS, in 2008, the U.S. Congress passed the Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act (H.R. 693), which offered states matching federal Title IV-E entitlement dollars to extend foster care through the age of 21; and

WHEREAS, in 2010, the State of California passed the California Fostering Connections to Success Act (Chapter 229 of the Statutes of 2010) to extend foster care in the state, and has since drawn down many millions of dollars to support foster youth success; and

WHEREAS, alongside an array of transitional housing programs administered by the State Department of Social Services, youth who have experienced foster care have a network of housing opportunities, albeit frayed and insufficient to forestall the dire housing precarity they face; and

WHEREAS, the State has a deep responsibility to create more housing on a dramatic scale for young people in and exiting the foster care system; and

WHEREAS, Assemblymember Pilar Schiavo (D-Chatsworth) has introduced Assembly Bill (AB) 963, which is focused on funding affordable housing development for current and former foster youth; and

WHEREAS, AB 963 would require the California Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank (I-Bank) to establish programs to guarantee qualified loans for construction of housing for current or former foster youth; provide guidance for prioritizing loan guarantees; outline the extent to which the State guarantees loan reimbursement in the event of default; and allow the I-Bank to adopt regulations to administer the program; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2023-24 State Legislative Program SUPPORT for Assembly Bill 963 (Schiavo), the End the Foster Care-to-Homelessness Pipeline Act.

PRESENTED BY: 
KATY YAROSLAVSKY
 Councilwoman, 5th District

SECONDED BY: 

 APR 12 2023

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