

**REPORT OF THE  
CHIEF LEGISLATIVE ANALYST**

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DATE: June 15, 2023

TO: Honorable Members of the Rules, Elections and Intergovernmental Relations Committee

FROM: Sharon M. Tso  
Chief Legislative Analyst

Council File No: 23-0002-S61  
Assignment No: 23-06-0313

SUBJECT: Resolution (Raman – Soto-Martínez) to support Assembly Bill 1738, Mobile Homeless Connect Pilot Program

CLA RECOMMENDATION: Adopt the attached Resolution (Raman – Soto-Martínez) to include in the 2023-2024 State Legislative Program support for legislative or administrative action for the State to enable unhoused Californians to more easily obtain identification cards.

SUMMARY

Resolution (Raman – Soto-Martínez), introduced June 9, 2023, states that one of the major barriers to rehousing people who are experiencing homelessness is difficulty obtaining all required personal documentation, including a form of State-issued identification. As federal, State, and local oversight of programs such as permanent supportive housing and rapid rehousing require valid identification, it is imperative that those currently experiencing homelessness are able to acquire such ID cards.

In addition, the Resolution explains that for those experiencing homelessness, it can be extremely challenging to retain their identification, as they are often impacted by frequent movement between locations, the seizure of personal property by municipal authorities, and theft on the street. Furthermore, while many unhoused people visit the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) for required documentation, few DMV offices and homeless outreach organizations have the resources and time to appropriately assist the large numbers of unhoused people that need to acquire proper documentation.

To address this issue, Assembly Bill (AB) 1738 (Carrillo) would require DMV offices to establish the Mobile Homeless Connect Pilot Program in specified areas in order to assist those experiencing homelessness with obtaining ID cards. In turn, the Mobile Homeless Connect Pilot Program will help speed up the process of rehousing homeless Californians by processing document and identification requests at interim housing sites and targeted encampments.

The Resolution recommends that the City support AB 1738, the Mobile Homeless Connect Pilot Program, so that the State may quickly aid those experiencing homelessness in obtaining documentation necessary to secure interim and permanent housing.

BACKGROUND

Many programs aimed at providing housing for people experiencing homelessness often combine federal, State, and local financing to build, operate, and oversee affordable housing and supportive services, but accessing these services requires valid identification. Many people experiencing homelessness find it challenging to keep track of their identification, and waiting in lengthy lines at the DMV can present various problems for unhoused individuals as a result of mental health issues, trauma, or anxiety over leaving their possessions unattended for lengthy periods of time. As such, by establishing the Mobile Homeless Connect

Pilot Program, AB 1738 would require DMV offices in specified areas to directly assist unhoused people with obtaining an ID card. By increasing access to identification for unhoused people at interim housing sites and targeted encampments, AB 1738 would directly help speed up the process of rehousing individuals experiencing homelessness.

Support for AB 1738 would be consistent with City efforts to address the ongoing epidemic of homelessness in the State and support transitioning those individuals experiencing homelessness into temporary and permanent supportive housing.

BILL STATUS

2/17/2023	Introduced
3/16/2023	Amended, referred to the Committee on Transportation and the Committee on Housing and Community Development
4/05/2023	Amended, re-referred to the Committee on Transportation
4/18/2023	Passed from the Committee on Transportation and re-referred to the Committee on Housing and Community Development
4/17/2023	Passed from the Committee on Housing and Community Development and re-referred to the Committee on Appropriations
5/18/2023	Revised, passed out of committee
5/31/2023	Passed and Ordered to the Senate
6/01/2023	Referred to the Committee on Rules for Assignment

  
Leah Wilson  
Analyst

Attachments: 1. Resolution (Raman – Soto-Martínez)  
2. California Assembly Bill 1738, Mobile Homeless Connect Pilot Program (Introduced February 17, 2023, Revised May 18, 2023)

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, one of the major barriers to rehousing people experiencing homelessness is obtaining required documentation, including state ID cards; and

WHEREAS, because of federal, state, and local oversight of programs such as permanent supportive housing and rapid re-housing, along with requirements from property managers and landlords, people experiencing homelessness usually need valid identification to participate in programs; and

WHEREAS, for someone experiencing homelessness, it can be extremely challenging to retain their identification; frequent movement between locations, seizing of personal property by municipal authorities, and theft on the street all contribute to challenges in retaining needed documents; and

WHEREAS, while many people experiencing homelessness often visit the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) for needed documents, few DMV offices or homeless outreach organizations have the resources and time to assist large numbers of people experiencing homelessness to obtain needed documentation; and

WHEREAS, Assembly Bill (AB) 1738, introduced by Assemblymember Wendy Carrillo, would require the DMV to establish the Mobile Homeless Connect Pilot Program in specified areas to assist persons experiencing homelessness with obtaining an identification card; and

WHEREAS, the Mobile Homeless Connect Pilot Program will speed up the process of rehousing individuals experiencing homelessness by processing document and identification requests at interim housing sites and targeted encampments;

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 2023-2024 State Legislative Program SUPPORT for AB 1738 (Carrillo).

PRESENTED BY: Nithya Roman  
NITHYA ROMAN  
Councilmember, 4th District

SECONDED BY: [Signature]

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AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 5, 2023

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 16, 2023

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2023–24 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 1738**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Wendy Carrillo**  
***(Coauthors: Assembly Members Rodriguez and Schiavo)***  
***(Coauthor: Senator Bradford)***

February 17, 2023

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An act to add and repeal Article 8 (commencing with Section 13040) of Chapter 1 of Division 6 of the Vehicle Code, relating to the Department of Motor Vehicles.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1738, as amended, Wendy Carrillo. Mobile Homeless Connect Pilot Program.

Existing law requires a fee of \$26 to be paid to the Department of Motor Vehicles upon an application for an identification card. Existing law waives that fee for an original or replacement identification card issued to any person who can verify their status as a homeless person or homeless child or youth, and authorizes a homeless services provider with knowledge of the person's housing status to verify the person's status for this purpose. Existing law requires a fee of \$30 to be paid to the department upon application for an original class C or M driver's license.

This bill, until January 1, 2029, would require the department to establish the Mobile Homeless Connect Pilot Program in specified areas to assist persons experiencing homelessness with obtaining ~~a driver's license or other needed~~ an identification card. The bill would require

the department to submit an annual report about the program to the Legislature on or before January 1, 2026, and on or before each January 1 thereafter.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

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

1 SECTION 1. Article 8 (commencing with Section 13040) is  
2 added to Chapter 1 of Division 6 of the Vehicle Code, to read:

3  
4 Article 8. Mobile Homeless Connect Pilot Program

5  
6 13040. This article shall be known, and may be cited, as the  
7 Mobile Homeless Connect Pilot Program.

8 13041. The Legislature finds and declares the following:

9 (a) California has the largest number of residents experiencing  
10 homelessness, with over 171,000 people experiencing homelessness  
11 on a given night, almost 30 percent of the nation's number,  
12 according to the United States Department of Housing and Urban  
13 Development's 2022 Annual Homelessness Assessment Report.

14 (b) The vast majority of people experiencing homelessness in  
15 California are from California or lived in California for years before  
16 becoming homeless.

17 (c) Homelessness is solvable with sustained investments in  
18 proven solutions and accountability in solving homelessness to  
19 the people of the State of California.

20 (d) Persons experiencing homelessness must have a state-issued  
21 identification card, among other documents, in order to access a  
22 range of key services, including permanent supportive housing,  
23 affordable housing, and rental subsidy programs.

24 (e) Assisting persons experiencing homelessness with obtaining  
25 identification cards will enable homeless service providers to move  
26 people into permanent housing more expeditiously.

27 13042. For purposes of this article:

28 (a) "Continuum of care" has the same meaning as defined in  
29 Section 578.3 of Title 24 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

30 (b) "Department" means the Department of Motor Vehicles.

31 (c) "Homeless services provider" includes:

1 (1) A governmental or nonprofit agency receiving federal, state,  
2 or county or municipal funding to provide services to persons  
3 experiencing homelessness or that is otherwise sanctioned to  
4 provide those services by a local homeless continuum of care  
5 organization.

6 (2) A human services provider or public social services provider  
7 funded by the state to provide homeless children or youth services,  
8 health services, mental or behavioral health services, substance  
9 use disorder services, or public assistance or employment services.

10 (d) "Persons experiencing homelessness" has the same meaning  
11 as "homeless" as defined in Section 578.3 of Title 24 of the Code  
12 of Federal Regulations, as that section read on January 10, 2019.

13 (e) "Pilot program" means the Mobile Homeless Connect Pilot  
14 Program.

15 13043. (a) Upon appropriation, the department shall establish  
16 a pilot program in the Counties of Los Angeles, Orange, San Diego,  
17 and Sacramento and the City and County of San Francisco to assist  
18 persons experiencing homelessness with obtaining ~~a driver's~~  
19 ~~license or other needed~~ an identification card, subject to all of the  
20 following requirements:

21 (1) The department shall develop guidelines for the pilot  
22 program in collaboration with the Business, Consumer Services,  
23 and Housing Agency.

24 (2) The department shall provide direct outreach in collaboration  
25 with local homeless services providers that contract with the local  
26 continuum of care.

27 (3) The department shall identify and prioritize locations  
28 identified by the local continuum of care.

29 (b) On or before January 1, 2026, and on or before each January  
30 1 thereafter, the department shall submit an annual report to the  
31 Legislature that includes information on the number of persons  
32 experiencing homelessness engaged, the number of identification  
33 cards issued, and any other metrics determined by the department  
34 and the Business, Consumer Services, and Housing Agency.

35 (c) This article shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2029,  
36 and as of that date is repealed.

AB 1738

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| 3 | Heading—Line 2. |       |
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