

Communication from Public

Name: Angela Birdsong

Date Submitted: 12/10/2024 06:04 AM

Council File No: 14-0268-S18

Comments for Public Posting: Hi, my name is Angela Birdsong. I am discussing Items #29, 30, 31 and giving general public comment in support of Right to Counsel. I am a housing rights organizer for Los Angeles Community Action Network better known as LA CAN. I work in Council District 14, and I reside in the city of Inglewood, a close neighbor of the city of Los Angeles, and I am a landlord in Hermosa Beach. I strongly support a codified Right to Counsel ordinance. I am also here to support all of the minor amendments passed by the Housing and Homeless Committee. Lastly, I'd like to thank all the Councilmembers who have already voted yes to advance a Right to Counsel Ordinance. I also want to thank Councilmember Raman for your leadership on this critical issue. Today the Council has the opportunity to take a big step on Measure ULA. I strongly support the Council approving the final program guidelines for ULA and the expenditure plan! ULA will also help fund Right to Counsel, tenant education and outreach, and rental assistance! Anyone who takes the housing crisis seriously—which is a crisis of housing affordability, housing availability, and poverty—must speak and act from a moral place, not a politically convenient place, to keep people in their homes, to prioritize permanent housing, and to stop using criminalization to hide poverty, erase people and cause a city wide genocide. I am a witness to how having a legal housing advocate guide and advise tenants through the murky waters of the eviction process is extremely necessary. I urge all City Councilmembers to vote yes on the RTC ordinance today. Thank you!