

Communication from Public

Name: Barbara schultz

Date Submitted: 09/10/2024 04:51 PM

Council File No: 18-0610

Comments for Public Posting: Los Angeles City Council Via website portal RE: Right to Counsel Ordinance, council file 18-0610-S3 City Council Members: Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles (LAFLA) is celebrating our 95th year. For much of that time we have been representing, and advocating for, tenants. LAFLA began the first large scale eviction defense program in the early 1980's. Since then, LAFLA has been increasing the services we provide to tenants. Presently, LAFLA is the primary contractor for Stay Housed LA (SHLA). LAFLA represents tenants in eviction, we provide limited legal assistance via the LAFLA hotline, the SHLA hotline, and the many clinics we provide. We also assist tenants through our self-help centers. In 2023 alone, LAFLA provided legal services to 5,213 tenants. LAFLA urges Council to vote in favor of the amendments coming out of the Housing and Homelessness committee. While we believe those amendments should justify removing the second paragraph of the purpose (beginning "This Ordinance does not establish a right to city funded counsel in eviction proceedings...") if it is not adequate, we recommend voting to remove that section as it would be internally inconsistent, generally confusing, and completely unnecessary. We thank you for your support of this important program. If any of your offices have questions about how SHLA operates, please do not hesitate to reach out to LAFLA. Sincerely, Barbara J. Schultz Director of Housing Justice



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www.lafla.org

September 10, 2024

Los Angeles City Council
Via website portal

RE: Right to Counsel Ordinance, council file 18-0610-S3

City Council Members:

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Barbara J. Schultz".

Barbara J. Schultz
Director of Housing Justice

Other Office Locations:

East Los Angeles Office, 5228 Whittier Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90022; 213-640-3883
Long Beach Office, 601 Pacific Ave., Long Beach, CA 90802; 562-435-3501
Santa Monica Office, 1640 5th St., Suite 124, Santa Monica, CA 90401; 310-899-6200
South Los Angeles Office, 7000 S. Broadway, Los Angeles, CA 90003; 213-640-3950