

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 government body or agency must first have been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the Concurrence of the Mayor; and,

WHEREAS, the COVID19 pandemic has had drastic impacts to everyday life, including employment, housing, and food access; and

WHEREAS, in March 2020, Governor Newsom declared a state of emergency in California, placing restrictions on all residents ability to travel and interact with others, even at the workplace; and,

WHEREAS, the State enacted the COVID19 tenant relief act, comprising of three laws AB 3088, SB 91 and AB 832, placing reasonable accommodations for renters who are in need of assistance; and,

WHEREAS, the City enacted some of the first renter protections in the nation for renters, designed to avoid evictions, allow for payment of rent, and ensure that the COVID19 pandemic did not force more people to experience homelessness, over \$1.2 billion in rental and utility assistance has assisted over 149,000 renting Angelenos impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

WHEREAS, the State currently administers the Housing is Key program, which has paid nearly \$974 million on behalf of 82,800 Los Angeles City households; and,

WHEREAS, due to the passage of SB 115, the state continues to fund any gaps found for eligible applicants with household incomes at or below 80% AMI, and received no later than March 31, 2022, however **no new applicants are being accepted or processed**; and,

WHEREAS, the median rent for a two-bedroom apartment in Los Angeles is about \$2,750, which requires an income of about \$111,000 annually to be affordable. Fewer than 29 percent of Los Angeles households can afford this rent. Additionally, according to the 2020 ACS 5-Year Estimates, about 497,000 renter households (56%) in the City of Los Angeles are rent-burdened, paying 30% or more of their monthly income on housing costs. Rent-burdened households are significantly impacted by life-altering duress, such as the pandemic, resulting in a higher risk of housing insecurity and displacement; and,

WHEREAS, including the total number of Angelenos who received rental assistance and those who have an application in process with the State (about 192,000 renter households), about **38% of rent-burdened households remain at risk of homelessness if additional emergency rental assistance is not offered as a housing stabilization resource**; and,

WHEREAS, the State of California has an over \$97.5 Billion dollar surplus, and needs to further invest in residents, renters and landlords who are in need; and,

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2021-2022 State Legislative Program SUPPORT for extending COVID19 renter protections such as Housing is Key, or any other initiative that provides funding for renters and landlords to ensure people stay housed without eviction.

Presented By: 
Mitch O'Farrell
Councilmember, 13th District

Seconded By: 

ORIGINAL

MAY 24 2022