

SENATE BILL SB-84

Introduced by Senator Suzette Martinez Valladares (R-23)

An act relating to Updating Assistance Programs for Homeless Individuals.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB-84, Suzette Martinez Valladares (R-23). Updating Assistance Programs for Homeless Individuals.

This bill is an act to amend Section 8698.4 and Section 14476 of the California Government Code, related to homelessness and the shelter crisis.

It will create a more accurate database of people experiencing homelessness in California and accurate bed capacity availability in homeless shelters and permanent supportive housing. This will give the California Housing and Homelessness Agency an accurate understanding of how many individuals experiencing homelessness are in need of shelter.

It will also create more actions for local governments to implement to support people experiencing homelessness with basic needs services.

Vote: Majority. **Appropriations/fiscal:** yes. **Local program:** yes.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Section 8698.4. of the Government Code is amended to read:

8698.4. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision in this chapter, upon a declaration of a shelter crisis by a city, county, or city and county, the following shall apply to the respective city, county, or city and county during the shelter crisis:

(6) If the city, county, or city and county has declared a shelter crisis, the city, county, or city and county shall report, by January 1 of each year, all of the following to the Senate Committee on Housing and the Assembly Committee on Housing and Community Development:

(A) The total number of residents in homeless shelters within the city, county, or city and county. *Additionally, the estimated number of residents who are living in encampments or unstable off-the-grid homeless camps to ensure accuracy.*

(B) The total number of residents who have moved from a homeless shelter into permanent supportive housing within the city, county, or city and county.

(C) The estimated number of permanent supportive housing units.

(D) The number of residents who have exited the system and are no longer in need of a homeless shelter or permanent supportive housing within the city, county, or city and county.

(E) The number and bed capacity of new homeless shelters *and permanent supportive housing* built pursuant to this section within the city, county, or city and county. The information regarding the bed capacity shall be included in reports due ~~by January 1, 2022, and~~ by January 1 *and July 1st* of each year thereafter. Bed capacity shall not include the parking vehicle capacity of a homeless shelter on a parking lot owned or leased by a city, county, or city and county specifically identified as one allowed for safe parking by homeless and unstably housed individuals.

(F) New actions the city, county, or city and county is taking under the declared shelter crisis to better serve the homeless population and to reduce the number of people experiencing homelessness.

SECTION 2. Section 14476 of the Government Code is amended to read:

The Secretary of California Housing and Homelessness ~~may develop~~ *must develop* programs for technical and fiscal assistance to facilitate nonprofit, self-help community vegetable gardens and related supporting activities (*related supporting activities must include creating food pantries and soup kitchens to provide homeless people safe and consistent meals*).