



CALIFORNIA DEMOCRATIC PARTY

SENATOR ART TORRES (RET.), CHAIRMAN

SD07.35

HOUSING AS A BASIC HUMAN RIGHT

WHEREAS, every night, a quarter of a million men, women and children, some elderly, many people with disabilities, including physically or mentally ill, numerous working people, tens of thousands of veterans of our armed forces, emancipated foster youth, runaway and throwaway teens, countless victims of domestic abuse, some drug dependent, socially isolated, and disproportionately minority people in California are homeless and sleep on our streets, under bridges, in abandoned buildings and other places unfit for human habitation; and

WHEREAS, the cities and counties of the state of California, blocked by both the proliferation of “NIMBY” (Not in My Backyard) ordinances, insufficient public and private investment in affordable housing, and a failure to campaign sufficiently for bond fund measures, have neither provided adequate affordable housing for vulnerable and at-risk populations (including families with children, the elderly, and people with special needs), nor adequately regulated the private development of residential structures to include affordable units of permanent housing, including housing supported by appropriate social services, and access to the resources that assure the personal fulfillment of each individual; and

WHEREAS, the protection of the poor, the vulnerable, the disenfranchised and those discriminated against is a core commitment of the Democratic Party and essential to the maintenance of a democratic society; and we are committed to the progressive realization of the human right to adequate housing, including but not limited to the overriding of NIMBY ordinances, siting of such housing on land and in any zone unless compelling cause be shown to defer such development for vital ecological or social purposes, we support local city and county measures that encourage private, non-profit organizations to construct such housing, and local action which provides private developers with incentives, density bonuses, and, wherever possible, subsidies or tax deferrals for the integration of affordable housing units in market-rate and non-profit residential developments;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party supports the recognition of permanent, adequate housing as a basic human right of all Californians, that it supports legislation that compels each city and county to include in the housing element of its master plan a survey of the homeless and those at risk of homelessness in its jurisdiction, and plans to meet the temporary and permanent housing needs of these populations, and private sector commitments; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the California Democratic Party will send a copy of this resolution to all state, county, and local legislators throughout the state of California and to our representatives in the Congress of the United States; to all members of the California State Democratic Party Convention; and that it shall also be distributed broadly to the media.

Submitted by: Ralph Fertig, 42nd AD
North East Democratic Club
Progressive Democrats of the Santa Monica Mountains
Progressive Democrats of Los Angeles
Dan Licht, 42nd AD Delegate
Michael Jay Miltenberg, 42nd AD Delegate
Susie Shannon, 42nd AD Delegate
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Brad Parker, 42nd AD Delegate
Norman Chramoff, 42nd AD Delegate
Amanda Rafti, 43rd AD Delegate
Carly Miller, 45th AD Delegate
Gail Burns, 44th AD Delegate
Linda Doran, 44th AD Delegate
Rosemary Jenkins, 38th AD Delegate
Michael Lee, 44th AD Delegate
Bill Rumble, 45th AD Delegate
Charles Lutness, 38th AD Delegate
Abby Reeve, 40th AD Delegate
David Lutness, 38th AD Delegate
Mary Jacobs, 45th AD Delegate
Christopher Boutelle, 43rd AD Delegate

Rosemary Reedy, 49th AD Delegate
Roz Teller, 43rd AD Delegate
John Heaner, 13th Regional Director
Lyn Klein, 41st AD Delegate
Ahjamu Makalani, 61st AD Delegate
Jacqueline Alikhaani, 39th AD Delegate
Charles Coleman Jr., 39th AD Delegate
Ann Hiller, 41st AD Delegate
Carl Manaster, 75th AD Delegate
Lynne Sandoval, 76th AD Delegate
Matthew Gerbasi, 45th AD Delegate
Charles Carnow, 40th AD Delegate

Adopted by the Democratic State Central Committee of California
AKA “California Democratic Party”
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