

An act to amend Section 8257 of the Welfare and Institutions Code,  
relating to homelessness.

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

SECTION 1. Section 8257 of the Welfare and Institutions Code is amended to read:

8257. (a) The Governor shall create an Interagency Council on Homelessness.

(b) The council shall have all of the following goals:

(1) To oversee implementation of this chapter.

(2) To identify mainstream resources, benefits, and services that can be accessed to prevent and end homelessness in California.

(3) To create partnerships among state agencies and departments, local government agencies, participants in the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development's Continuum of Care Program, federal agencies, the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness, nonprofit entities working to end homelessness, homeless services providers, and the private sector, for the purpose of arriving at specific strategies to end homelessness.

(4) To promote systems integration to increase efficiency and effectiveness while focusing on designing systems to address the needs of people experiencing homelessness, including unaccompanied youth under 25 years of age.

(5) To coordinate existing funding and applications for competitive funding. Any action taken pursuant to this paragraph shall not restructure or change any existing allocations or allocation formulas.

(6) To make policy and procedural recommendations to legislators and other governmental entities.

(7) To identify and seek funding opportunities for state entities that have programs to end homelessness, including, but not limited to, federal and philanthropic funding opportunities, and to facilitate and coordinate those state entities' efforts to obtain that funding.

(8) To broker agreements between state agencies and departments and between state agencies and departments and local jurisdictions to align and coordinate resources, reduce administrative burdens of accessing existing resources, and foster common applications for services, operating, and capital funding.

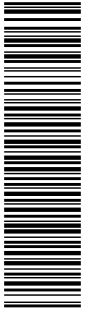
(9) To serve as a statewide facilitator, coordinator, and policy development resource on ending homelessness in California.

(10) To report to the Governor, federal Cabinet members, and the Legislature on homelessness and work to reduce homelessness.

(11) To ensure accountability and results in meeting the strategies and goals of the council.

(12) To identify and implement strategies to fight homelessness in small communities and rural areas.

(13) To create a statewide data system or warehouse, which shall be known as the Homeless Data Integration System, that collects local data through Homeless Management Information Systems, with the ultimate goal of matching data on homelessness to programs impacting homeless recipients of state programs, such as the Medi-Cal program (Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 14000) of Part 3 of Division 9) and CalWORKs (Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 11200) of Part 3 of Division 9). Upon creation of the Homeless Data Integration System, all continuums of care, as defined in Section 578.3 of Title 24 of the Code of Federal Regulations,



that are operating in California shall provide collected data elements, including, but not limited to, health information, in a manner consistent with federal law, to the Homeless Data Integration System.

(A) Council staff shall specify the form and substance of the required data elements.

(B) Council staff may, as required by operational necessity, and in accordance with paragraph (8) of subdivision (d) of Section 8256, amend or modify data elements, disclosure formats, or disclosure frequency.

(C) (i) To further the efforts to improve the public health, safety, and welfare of people experiencing homelessness in the state, council staff may collect data from the continuums of care as provided in this paragraph.

(ii) ~~Council staff may share~~ To measure housing instability and effectiveness of and need for housing and homelessness programs and other antipoverty programs among Californians, council staff shall share personally identifiable, individual-level Homeless Data Integration System data with a state an agency or department that is a member of the council. council, upon request.

(D) Any health information or personal identifying information provided to, or maintained within, the Homeless Data Integration System shall not be subject to public inspection or disclosure under the California Public Records Act (~~Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 6250) of Division 7 (Division 10 (commencing with Section 7920.000) of Title 1 of the Government Code).~~

(E) For purposes of this paragraph, “health information” includes “protected health information,” as defined in ~~Part Section~~ Section 160.103 of Title 45 of the Code of Federal Regulations, and “medical information,” as defined in subdivision (j) of Section 56.05 of the Civil Code.

(14) To set goals to prevent and end homelessness among California’s youth.

(15) To improve the safety, health, and welfare of young people experiencing homelessness in the state.

(16) To increase system integration and coordinating efforts to prevent homelessness among youth who are currently or formerly involved in the child welfare system or the juvenile justice system.

(17) To lead efforts to coordinate a spectrum of funding, policy, and practice efforts related to young people experiencing homelessness.

(18) To identify best practices to ensure homeless minors who may have experienced maltreatment, as described in Section 300, are appropriately referred to, or have the ability to self-refer to, the child welfare system.

(19) To collect, compile, and make available to the public financial data provided to the council from all state-funded homelessness programs.

(c) (1) The council shall consist of the following members:

(A) The Secretary of Business, Consumer Services, and Housing and the Secretary of California Health and Human Services Agency, who both shall serve as cochairs of the council.

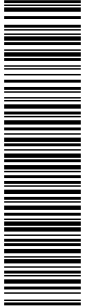
(B) The Director of Transportation.

(C) The Director of Housing and Community Development.

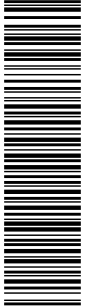
(D) The Director of Social Services.

(E) The Director of the California Housing Finance Agency.

(F) The Director or the State Medicaid Director of Health Care Services.



- (G) The Secretary of Veterans Affairs.
- (H) The Secretary of the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.
- (I) The Executive Director of the California Tax Credit Allocation Committee in the Treasurer's office.
- (J) The State Public Health Officer.
- (K) The Director of the California Department of Aging.
- (L) The Director of Rehabilitation.
- (M) The Director of State Hospitals.
- (N) The executive director of the California Workforce Development Board.
- (O) The Director of the Office of Emergency Services.
- (P) A representative from the State Department of Education, who shall be appointed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction.
- (Q) A representative of the state public higher education system who shall be from one of the following:
- (i) The California Community Colleges.
  - (ii) The University of California.
  - (iii) The California State University.
- (2) The Senate Committee on Rules and the Speaker of the Assembly shall each appoint one member to the council from two different stakeholder organizations.
- (3) The council may, at its discretion, invite stakeholders, individuals who have experienced homelessness, members of philanthropic communities, and experts to participate in meetings or provide information to the council.
- (4) The council shall hold public meetings at least once every quarter.
- (d) The council shall regularly seek guidance from and, at least twice a year, meet with an advisory committee. Notwithstanding Section 11123.5 of the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act (Article 9 (commencing with Section 11120) of Chapter 1 of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code), all members of the advisory committee may participate remotely in advisory committee meetings, including meetings held with the council, and no members are required to be present at the designated primary physical meeting location. The cochairs of the council shall appoint members to this advisory committee that reflects racial and gender diversity, and shall include the following:
- (1) A survivor of gender-based violence who formerly experienced homelessness.
  - (2) Representatives of local agencies or organizations that participate in the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development's Continuum of Care Program.
  - (3) Stakeholders with expertise in solutions to homelessness and best practices from other states.
  - (4) Representatives of committees on African Americans, youth, and survivors of gender-based violence.
  - (5) A current or formerly homeless person who lives in California.
  - (6) A current or formerly homeless youth who lives in California.
  - (7) A current or formerly homeless person with a developmental disability.
  - (8) This advisory committee shall designate one of the above-described members to participate in every quarterly council meeting to provide a report to the council on advisory committee activities.



(e) Within existing funding, the council may establish working groups, task forces, or other structures from within its membership or with outside members to assist it in its work. Working groups, task forces, or other structures established by the council shall determine their own meeting schedules.

(f) Upon request of the council, a state agency or department that administers one or more state homelessness programs, including, but not limited to, an agency or department represented on the council pursuant to subdivision (c), the agency or department shall be required to do both of the following:

(1) Participate in council workgroups, task forces, or other similar administrative structures.

(2) Provide to the council any relevant information regarding those state homelessness programs.

(g) (1) The members of the council, advisory committee, or working groups who are or have been homeless may receive per diem and reimbursement for travel or other expenses as follows:

(A) A member of the council who is or has been homeless shall receive a per diem of one hundred dollars (\$100) for each day during which that member is engaged in the performance of official duties and shall also be reimbursed for travel and other expenses necessarily incurred in the performance of official duties.

(B) A member of the advisory committee who is or has been homeless shall receive a per diem of one hundred dollars (\$100) for each day during which that member is engaged in the performance of official duties and shall also be reimbursed for travel and other expenses necessarily incurred in the performance of official duties.

(C) A member of a working group, as defined and managed by council staff, who is or has been homeless shall receive a per diem of one hundred dollars (\$100) for each day during which that member is engaged in the performance of official duties and shall also be reimbursed for travel and other expenses necessarily incurred in the performance of official duties.

(2) (A) A per diem or reimbursement request pursuant to paragraph (1) is subject to funding availability.

(B) Notwithstanding any other law, assistance provided pursuant to this subdivision shall not be deemed to be income for purposes of the Personal Income Tax Law (Part 10 (commencing with Section 17001) of Division 2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code) or used to determine eligibility for any state program or local program financed wholly or in part by state funds.

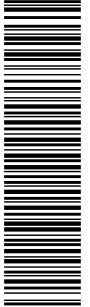
(3) (A) For purposes of complying with paragraphs (1) and (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 41 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, as it pertains to this subdivision, the Legislature finds and declares as follows:

(i) The specific goals, purposes, and objectives that the exemptions created by subparagraph (B) of paragraph (2) are as follows:

(I) The objective is to facilitate the participation of individuals with lived experience in order to include valuable insight from those lived experiences in shaping policy recommendations.

(II) The goal is to prevent members with lived homelessness experience from incurring tax liability because of their participation.

(III) The purpose is to enable participants with lived homelessness experience to receive the full benefit of their per diem and reimbursements.



(ii) The performance indicators the Legislature can use to determine if the exemption is achieving the goals, purposes, and objectives stated in clause (i) shall be as follows:

(I) Whether the council, advisory committee, or working group members with lived homelessness experience incur any tax liability because of their participation on the committee.

(II) The number of people with lived homelessness experience who serve on the council, advisory committee, and working groups.

(B) (i) For purposes of complying with paragraph (3) of subdivision (a) of Section 41 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, as it pertains to this subdivision, the Legislative Analyst's Office shall deliver to the Legislature on or before April 1 of each year a written report that includes both of the following:

(I) The estimated aggregate tax liability incurred by council, advisory committee, or working group members with lived homelessness experience because of their participation on the committee.

(II) The estimated number of people with lived homelessness experience who serve on the council, advisory committee, or working groups that excluded qualified amounts from gross income as described in paragraph (1).

(ii) A report submitted pursuant to this subparagraph shall be submitted in compliance with Section 9795 of the Government Code.

(iii) The reporting requirement pursuant to this subparagraph shall become inoperative on April 1, 2028, pursuant to Section 10231.5 of the Government Code.

(4) For purposes of this subdivision, "the performance of official duties" includes, but is not limited to, attending a council, advisory, or working group meeting and reviewing agenda materials for no more than one day in preparation for each council, advisory, or working group meeting.

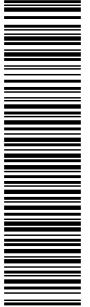
(h) The appointed members of the council or committees, as described in this section, shall serve at the pleasure of their appointing authority.

(i) The Business, Consumer Services, and Housing Agency shall provide staff for the council.

(j) The members of the council may enter into memoranda of understanding with other members of the council to achieve the goals set forth in this chapter, as necessary, in order to facilitate communication and cooperation between the entities the members of the council represent.

(k) There shall be an executive officer of the council under the direction of the Secretary of Business, Consumer Services, and Housing.

(l) The council shall be under the direction of the executive officer and staffed by employees of the Business, Consumer Services, and Housing Agency.



## LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

Bill No.  
as introduced, \_\_\_\_\_.  
General Subject: California Interagency Council on Homelessness.

Existing law requires the Governor to establish the Interagency Council on Homelessness and requires the council to, among other things, identify mainstream resources, benefits, and services that can be accessed to prevent and end homelessness in California and create a data system, known as the Homeless Data Integration System, to collect local data through Homeless Management Information Systems with the ultimate goal of matching data on homelessness to programs impacting homeless recipients of state programs. Existing law authorizes the council to share Homeless Data Integration System data with a state agency or department that is a member of the council. Existing law prohibits a state public agency from disclosing any personal information in a manner that would link the information disclosed to the individual to whom it pertains except under specific circumstances. Existing law also exempts health information and personally identifying information in the Homeless Data Integration System from public inspection or disclosure under the California Public Records Act.

This bill would require, upon request, council staff to share personally identifiable, individual-level Homeless Data Integration System data with an agency or department that is a member of the council.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

