

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 governmental body must have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor, and

WHEREAS, every state, county, and metro area faces a shortage of affordable housing. A sizable fraction of households pay more than half their income on their rent. And, despite recent progress, the private market is incapable of resolving this affordable housing shortfall on its own;

WHEREAS, in 1998, President Bill Clinton signed a welfare reform bill with a policy rider attached that capped public housing at 1999 levels, making any new construction over this number illegal; this law is known as the *Faircloth Amendment*;

WHEREAS, repealing this amendment is necessary to build even one more federal public housing unit beyond the limit set 20 years ago;

WHEREAS, there is a growing need for new investments to ensure housing for all as demand outpaces supply in our major cities and prices jump for newcomers and existing residents alike;

WHEREAS, speculative real estate further drives up prices in Los Angeles, and the vicious cycle pushes long-time residents out of their communities and further from city centers where jobs and services lie;

WHEREAS, federal rental subsidies in the form of Section 8 vouchers from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) cover only 22 percent of eligible citizens;

WHEREAS, on November 20, 2019, Representative Ilhan Omar (D-MN) introduced H.R. 5244, the *Homes For All Act*, which repeals the Faircloth Amendment, allowing the federal government to begin reinvesting in new public housing;

WHEREAS, H.R. 5244 would make a historic investment of \$800 billion over the course of 10 years with the goal of building 8.5 million new units of public housing and invest an additional \$200 billion in the Housing Trust Fund to help local communities build 3.5 million new private, permanent affordable housing projects for low and extremely-low income families;

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WHEREAS, H.R. 5244 makes public housing operating and capital expenses mandatory spending to ensure that the funding needs of public housing are fully met and cannot be cut in the event of a budget crisis or a change in Administration;

WHEREAS, H.R. 5244 also creates a new Community Control and Anti-Displacement Fund within HUD, appropriating \$200 billion over ten years to protect families from gentrification, prevent displacement and stabilize neighborhoods;

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 2019-2020 Federal Legislative Program SUPPORT for H.R. 5244, the *Homes For All Act*, and supports repeal of the Faircloth Amendment.

PRESENTED BY:



MIKE BONIN

Councilmember, 11th District

SECONDED BY:



