



May 20, 2021

RE: DPSFV Supports Assembly Bill 71 [Statewide Homelessness Solutions Program] As Amended

Representatives of the Honorable San Fernando Valley Delegation:

On behalf of the Democratic Party of the San Fernando Valley (DPSFV), we are pleased to report that our Executive Board voted to support AB 71 which commits the legislature to a comprehensive plan to address homelessness by investing, for the first time in history, dedicated ongoing state investment in long-term solutions to homelessness.

DPSFV was founded in 1978 and is chartered by the Los Angeles County Democratic Central Committee. Our organization is the coordinating body for a coalition of twenty-one Democratic Clubs located in the six Assembly Districts (38, 39, 43, 45, 46, and 50) which are wholly or partially in the San Fernando Valley.

AB 71 (L. Rivas) establishes a permanent source of funding and a collaborative statewide strategy for solving homelessness. It will fill gaps within the state's response and will scale evidence-based solutions, while promoting innovations to move people quickly into permanent housing. AB 71 also aims to eliminate racial bias, ensure youth and survivors of domestic violence have equitable access to housing and services, and enhance coordination and collaboration among state and local agencies. The bill ensures a transparent and accountable process through performance measures, rewards local governments for hitting aggressive goals, and removes funding for any jurisdiction failing to spend resources quickly. It requires annual reporting, and strengthens data collection at the local and state levels. In transforming the state's response to homelessness, it will also create a more transparent program than the state has ever before crafted. AB 71 relies on funding for large and multinational corporations for the revenue source, rebalancing inequities laid bare by COVID.

DPSFV is committed to ensuring homelessness becomes brief, rare and nonrecurrent. Ongoing state investments, combined with significant structural changes to how California oversees, coordinates, and delivers results are essential to solving homelessness.

We urge you to support AB 71.

Please note that DPSFV will be tracking this bill as it travels through the Legislature. Your voting record will be noted and may be considered should you ever seek our endorsement. Your office is always welcome to contact DPSFV if you have any questions.

Sincerely and respectfully,

Chair Sean M. Rivas
Democratic Party of the San Fernando Valley

cc: Assembly Members Rivas (author), Friedman, Gabriel, Nazarian, and Bloom
Senators Hertzberg, Portantino, Stern, and Allen

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