

Legislative Proposals

Legislators representing the downtown Skid Row area recently introduced several legislative proposals to address homelessness. Below is a summary of the bills.

AB 2961 (Nuñez) – Revises the statutory definition of “homeless” to include CalWORKS families who have received an eviction notice; increases CalWORKS Temporary Homeless Assistance benefits for families to \$65 per night for a family of four and \$15 for each additional person, up to a maximum of \$125; raises the eligibility threshold and payment level for CalWORKS Permanent Housing Assistance by using 80% of total household income to calculate benefits. The bill will be amended to include a time-limited rent subsidy for qualified CalWORKS families to prevent eviction.

SB 1318 (Cedillo) – Requires two additional years of prison for drug dealing on the grounds or within 1000 feet of a homeless shelter, drug treatment center or detoxification facility.

SB 1319 (Cedillo) – Prohibits homeless dumping in Skid Row by requiring police to release persons from custody within the boundaries of the arresting agency.

SB 1320 (Cedillo) – Prohibits persons on probation for drug dealing from being physically present in Skid Row. This would be a condition of probation required by the courts.

SB 1321 (Cedillo) – Called the “Community Reunification Act,” this bill requires persons living in Los Angeles County who are processed through the Los Angeles County Inmate Reception Center to be released from custody to the nearest Los Angeles County sheriff’s facility closest to the location of arrest or the person’s home.

SB 1322 (Cedillo) – Requires the housing element of the general plan of a city or county to include emergency shelters and residential service providers.