

1 [Supporting California State Assembly Bill No. 1573 (Bryan) - The Unseen and Unheard  
2 Housing Act]

3 **Resolution supporting California State Assembly Bill No. 1573 (AB 1573) introduced by**  
4 **Assembly Member Isaac Bryan and coauthored by Assembly Member Catherine**  
5 **Stefani, which would amend Section 65582 of the California Government Code to**  
6 **provide that victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking may**  
7 **be included in the definition of “target population” under California’s Housing Element**  
8 **requirements, thereby ensuring that cities and counties assess the supportive housing**  
9 **needs of survivors when updating their general plans.**

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11 WHEREAS, California's Planning and Zoning Law requires each city and county to  
12 adopt a housing element as part of its General Plan, including an analysis of supportive  
13 housing needs for "target populations", currently defined under Government Code, Section  
14 65582 to include persons with low incomes who have one or more disabilities, individuals  
15 eligible for developmental disability services, and other specified populations such as veterans  
16 and the elderly; and

17 WHEREAS, Jurisdictions are required to determine the number of people in each  
18 target population and factor their housing needs into the overall housing element, along with  
19 analysis of all the programs available for each population; and

20 WHEREAS, Survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking are  
21 currently not enumerated in the statutory definition of "target population", leaving their specific  
22 housing needs unexamined; and

23 WHEREAS, Data from the California Statewide Study of People Experiencing  
24 Homelessness indicates that those with a history of homelessness are three times more likely  
25 to report a history of sexual violence; and

1           WHEREAS, 20% of unhoused women in California report domestic violence as a  
2 precursor to their homelessness; and

3           WHEREAS, Survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking are  
4 disproportionately represented among individuals experiencing homelessness, remain  
5 unhoused for longer periods, and are less likely to obtain permanent housing than the broader  
6 unhoused population; and

7           WHEREAS, Domestic violence survivors return to homelessness at a rate nearly 50%  
8 more frequently than the broader population of unhoused people; and

9           WHEREAS, California State Assembly Bill No. 1573 (AB 1573), the Unseen and  
10 Unheard Housing Act, introduced by Assembly Member Isaac Bryan and coauthored by  
11 Assembly Member Catherine Stefani, would amend Government Code, Section 65582 by  
12 providing that the definition of "target population" may include victims of domestic violence,  
13 victims of crimes involving sexual assault, and victims of human trafficking; and

14           WHEREAS, Explicit recognition of survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and  
15 human trafficking as a target population would move California toward a more inclusive  
16 planning framework and affirm that these populations have distinct supportive housing needs  
17 that warrant targeted interventions; and

18           WHEREAS, Including survivors as a target population would strengthen the ability of  
19 cities and counties to design programs and allocate resources that support survivors in  
20 achieving housing stability; now, therefore, be it

21           RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco  
22 encourages timely adoption of AB 1573 to ensure cities and counties assess and plan for the  
23 supportive housing needs of survivors and improve housing outcomes for one of the most  
24 underserved populations within the unhoused community; and, be it

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1           FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Board shall send a copy of this  
2 Resolution to Governor Gavin Newsom, President pro-Tempore Monique Limón, Speaker of  
3 the State Assembly Robert Rivas, and the offices of San Francisco's State delegation.

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