

**LEGISLATIVE DIGEST**

[Standards of Care for City Shelters.]

**Ordinance amending the San Francisco Administrative Code by adding a new Article 13 to Chapter 20 to: 1) mandate certain provisions in all contracts for City funded shelters, 2) require the City to take corrective enforcement measures against City-funded shelter contractors who fail to comply with contractual provisions that this Article requires; and 3) require the Shelter Monitoring Committee to investigate complaints against City funded-shelters, and 4) require the Director of the Department of Public Health to determine if the imposition of liquidated damages is warranted against shelters who fail to comply with a corrective action plan.**

**Existing Law**

Article 13 is new. Currently, there are no standards of care required for City-funded shelters.

**Amendments to Current Law**

The purpose of this legislation is to establish standards of care that the City must include in contracts with shelters and to ensure that the City takes corrective enforcement measures against shelter operators who fail to comply with the contractual provisions that this ordinance requires.

The legislation requires the City to provide: 1) 24-hour access to a shelter and on-site shelter reservations for current shelter clients; and 2) at least one 24-hour emergency drop-in shelter.

In addition, the legislation requires that all contracts between the City and shelter operators include specific standards of care, including: 1) various provisions to provide shelter services in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA); 2) mandatory training requirements to shelter staff on a variety of topics enumerated in section 20.404(a)(31). It also directs the Shelter Monitoring Committee – as opposed to the Director of the City department overseeing the contract for shelter services – to investigate complaints and to forward the results of its investigations to the Director of the Department of Public Health (DPH), or his or her designee. The legislation then requires the Director of DPH to determine if the shelter failed to comply with the provisions of this Article, and whether or not to impose liquidated damages pursuant to a schedule adopted by the Director of DPH against the shelter if the shelter fails to comply with a corrective action plan. The ordinance also requires DPH to prepare a written report to the Board within six months of the effective date of the ordinance addressing certain topics, including the level of compliance by shelters with the ordinance and the financial impact of the ordinance on DPH, if any.

Finally, the ordinance establishes procedures by which a shelter operator can appeal the Director of DPH's determination that liquidated damages are proper.

**FILE NO. 071518**

**Amendment of the Whole 03/10/08**