

LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

[Administrative Code - Supportive Housing Tenants' Enrollment in Public Benefits]

Ordinance amending the Administrative Code to require providers of City-funded permanent supportive housing to inform the City six months after each tenant moves into supportive housing about all public benefits the tenant is receiving or has applied to receive, make reasonable efforts to help enroll tenants in all public benefits for which they are eligible, and provide an annual report regarding tenant enrollment in public benefits; and to provide for enforcement and penalties against housing providers who fail to comply with these requirements.

Existing Law

The Human Services Agency ("HSA") enters into contracts with housing providers to administer permanent supportive housing. No City law requires these contracts to include provisions obligating the housing providers to make reasonable efforts to help clients determine the public benefits for which they may be eligible, help clients apply for the public benefits for which they may be eligible, or provide information to the City about client enrollment in public benefits.

Amendments to Current Law

This Ordinance adds Article VI to Chapter 20. Article VI applies to any Housing Provider that enters into a Housing-Related Contract with the City. A Housing-Related Contract is any contract, or amendment thereto, that provides for the administration of Permanent Supportive Housing to Clients of HSA. A Housing Provider is any entity that contracts with HSA to administer Permanent Supportive Housing.

Article VI requires every Housing-Related Contract to contain provisions in which the Housing Provider agrees to the following requirements:

- Within six months of placing any Client in Permanent Supportive Housing and at least once every calendar year thereafter, the Housing Provider shall inform the Agency of all Public Benefits for which the Client has applied and all Public Benefits the Client is receiving. Public Benefits include CalFresh, CalWORKS, General Assistance, Medi-Cal, SSI, and VA Benefits.
- The Housing Provider shall make reasonable efforts to help Clients determine the Public Benefits for which they may be reasonably eligible, and help Clients enroll in all Public Benefits for which they may be reasonably eligible.
- The Housing Provider shall provide an annual report to HSA regarding Client enrollment in Public Benefits.

The ordinance would be enforced primarily by HSA. Violators would have to pay the City liquidated damages.

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