

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 19, 2025

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 1, 2025

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 9, 2025

AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 27, 2025

SENATE BILL

No. 748

Introduced by Senator Richardson

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Haney and Tangipa)

February 21, 2025

An act to amend Sections 50251 and 50254 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to housing.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 748, as amended, Richardson. Encampment Resolution Funding program: safe parking sites: reporting.

Existing law establishes the Encampment Resolution Funding program, administered by the Department of Housing and Community Development, to increase collaboration between the department, local jurisdictions, and continuums of care for, among other things, providing encampment resolution grants to local jurisdictions and continuums of care to resolve critical encampment concerns and transition individuals into safe and stable housing.

This bill would additionally include, as purposes of the program, assisting local jurisdictions ~~that are urban communities within a county~~ with operating safe parking sites while locating interim or permanent ~~housing~~. *housing for people experiencing homelessness living in vehicles or recreational vehicles.*

Existing law requires the department to report to the chairs of the relevant fiscal and policy committees of the Legislature on the outcomes, learnings, and best practices models identified through the program.

Beginning on April 1, 2026, and quarterly thereafter, the bill would require the department to report to the chairs of certain Senate and Assembly committees on the funding distributed for each of the program's purposes, as specified.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the
2 following:

3 (a) In January 2024, the United States Department of Housing
4 and Urban Development (HUD) reported 187,084 people
5 experiencing homelessness, and a significant portion of these
6 individuals are living in recreational vehicles (RV).

7 (b) Further startling statistics are:

8 (1) Two-thirds of ~~reported homeless people experiencing~~
9 *homelessness* (124,537) in the state, the highest in the country,
10 sleep outside.

11 (2) Twenty-five percent, that is one in four, of the ~~homeless~~
12 *people experiencing homelessness* in America, are homeless here
13 in California.

14 (3) Forty-four percent, on average, that are homeless are
15 “chronically homeless,” meaning individuals may have a long
16 medical or mental disability and are homeless for more than one
17 year.

18 (c) Homelessness may be defined as an individual or family
19 who lacks a “fixed, regular, and adequate” nighttime permanent
20 residence. ~~A man, woman, or child that sleeps on the street, in~~
21 ~~front of a store, or in an RV for more than 14 days is considered~~
22 ~~to be experiencing homelessness.~~

23 (d) According to long-standing law, Section 18010 of the Health
24 and Safety Code, an RV means a motor home, travel trailer, truck
25 camper, or camping trailer, with or without motive power, designed
26 for human habitation for recreational, emergency, or other
27 occupancy.

1 (e) In California, RVs are intended for temporary recreational
2 or emergency occupancy, not for long-term living or habitation
3 on private property outside of designated areas like RV parks,
4 campgrounds, or mobilehome parks.

5 (f) RVs are designed for leisure travel, camping, and temporary
6 living, not as permanent residences.

7 SEC. 2. Section 50251 of the Health and Safety Code is
8 amended to read:

9 50251. (a) The Encampment Resolution Funding program is
10 hereby established to, upon appropriation by the Legislature,
11 increase collaboration between the council, local jurisdictions, and
12 continuums of care for the following purposes:

13 (1) Assist local jurisdictions in ensuring the safety and wellness
14 of people experiencing homelessness in encampments.

15 (2) Provide encampment resolution grants to local jurisdictions
16 and continuums of care to resolve critical encampment concerns
17 and transition individuals into safe and stable housing.

18 (3) Encourage a data-informed, coordinated approach to address
19 encampment concerns.

20 (4) Assist local jurisdictions ~~that are urban communities within~~
21 ~~a county~~ with operating safe parking sites while locating interim
22 or permanent ~~housing~~. *housing for people experiencing*
23 *homelessness living in vehicles or recreational vehicles*. This
24 includes the acquisition of sites for safe parking, operation of the
25 site, services to the safe parking site, and increasing safe parking
26 site hours.

27 (b) (1) The council shall administer the program.

28 (2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), the council may consult with
29 and designate a state agency or department to support the
30 administration of the program.

31 (c) (1) The council's decision to approve or deny an application
32 and the determination of the amount of funding to be provided
33 shall be final and not subject to appeal.

34 (2) In determining which applications to approve, the council
35 shall evaluate and score proposals based on all of the following
36 criteria:

37 (A) The applicant's capacity to carry out the proposal.

38 (B) Whether the site selected for services aligns with the
39 proposed service delivery model.

1 (C) Whether the demographics and needs of service recipients
2 align with the proposed service delivery model.

3 (D) The applicant's ability to develop a detailed service delivery
4 plan, including a description of how individuals will be served
5 with permanent housing solutions.

6 (E) The applicant's ability to coordinate with other systems to
7 increase services and housing options.

8 (F) The applicant's capacity to involve people with lived
9 experience and local community partners in the implementation
10 of its project.

11 (G) The applicant's ability to recruit and deploy personnel with
12 experience and expertise needed to support the success of their
13 proposal.

14 (H) The applicant's ability to demonstrate a prudent and
15 effective use of requested funding relative to the number of people
16 it seeks to serve and the types of services to be provided in the
17 proposal.

18 (d) The council shall maintain records of the following:

19 (1) The number of applications for program grants received by
20 the council.

21 (2) The number of applications for program grants denied by
22 the council.

23 (3) The name of each recipient of a program grant.

24 (4) The amount of funds allocated to each applicant.

25 (e) The council may adopt regulations to implement this chapter.
26 The adoption, amendment, or repeal of a regulation authorized by
27 this subdivision is hereby exempted from the rulemaking provisions
28 of the Administrative Procedure Act (Chapter 3.5 (commencing
29 with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the
30 Government Code).

31 SEC. 3. Section 50254 of the Health and Safety Code is
32 amended to read:

33 50254. (a) Notwithstanding any other law, all recipients of
34 funds pursuant to this chapter shall provide data elements,
35 including, but not limited to, health information, in a manner
36 consistent with state and federal law, to their local Homeless
37 Management Information System for tracking in the statewide
38 Homeless Data Integration System.

39 (b) (1) The council shall specify the form and substance of the
40 required data elements.

1 (2) The council may, as required by operational necessity, amend
2 or modify data elements, disclosure formats, or disclosure
3 frequency.

4 (3) Grantees shall report individual, client-level data for persons
5 served by grant funding to the council, in addition to any data
6 reported through the local Homeless Management Information
7 System, as required by the council for the purposes of research
8 and evaluation of grant performance, service pathways, and
9 outcomes for people served.

10 (4) Council staff may use information reported directly from
11 grantees and through the statewide Homeless Data Integration
12 System for the purposes of research and evaluation of grant
13 performance, service pathways, and outcomes for people served.

14 (c) Any health information or personal identifying information
15 provided to or maintained within the statewide Homeless Data
16 Integration System pursuant to this section shall not be subject to
17 public inspection or disclosure under the California Public Records
18 Act (Division 10 (commencing with Section 7920.000) of Title 1
19 of the Government Code).

20 (d) For purposes of this paragraph, “health information” includes
21 “protected health information,” as defined in Part 160.103 of Title
22 45 of the Code of Federal Regulations, and “medical information,”
23 as defined in subdivision (j) of Section 56.05 of the Civil Code.

24 (e) All recipients shall provide information and products
25 developed with grant funds on service delivery models in support
26 of the overall program goal to mitigate risk and address safety
27 concerns in encampments, while ensuring a pathway for individuals
28 living in encampments to move into safe and stable housing, in a
29 format and timeframe specified by the council.

30 (f) The council shall evaluate the data and outcomes reported
31 by recipients to assess efficacy of programs and identify scalable
32 best practices for encampment resolution that can be replicated
33 across the state.

34 (g) The council shall report as follows:

35 (1) To the chairs of the relevant fiscal and policy committees
36 in both houses on the outcomes, learnings, and best practices
37 models identified through this program. The report shall be
38 submitted in compliance with Section 9795 of the Government
39 Code.

(2) (A) Beginning on April 1, 2026, and quarterly thereafter, to the chairs of the Senate Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review, the Assembly Committee on Budget, the Senate Committee on Housing, the Assembly Committee on Housing and Community Development, and the Senate and Assembly Committees on Human Services on the funding distributed for each of the purposes described in subdivision (a) of Section 50251.

(B) The requirement for submitting a report imposed under subparagraph (A) is inoperative on April 1, 2030, pursuant to Section 10231.5 of the Government Code.

(C) A report to be submitted pursuant to subparagraph (A) shall be submitted in compliance with Section 9795 of the Government Code.

(h) Contracts entered into to implement this chapter shall be exempt from all of the following:

(1) Chapter 6 (commencing with Section 14825) of Part 5.5 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

(2) The personal services contracting requirements of Article 4 (commencing with Section 19130) of Chapter 5 of Part 2 of Division 5 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

(3) Part 2 (commencing with Section 10100) of Division 2 of the Public Contract Code and the State Contracting Manual.

(4) Notwithstanding Section 11546 of the Government Code, from review or approval of any division of the Department of Technology, upon approval from the Department of Finance.

(5) From the review or approval of any division of the Department of General Services.