

1 [Urging the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors to support the establishment of a statewide
2 Office of the Homeless Youth Advocate (AB 2547)]
3 **Resolution urging the Mayor and the Board to support the establishment of a statewide**
4 **office of the Homeless Youth Advocate, which, as laid out in Assembly Bill 2547, would**
5 **improve coordination of services, reduce barriers to service provision, reduce**
6 **expenditures related to overlapping services, and ensure quality of services provided.**
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8 WHEREAS, While there has been an increase in homeless youth in California since
9 the 1980s, there have not been significant new resources dedicated to this population in this
10 time; and
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12 WHEREAS, Due to the rise in foreclosures, unemployment and other factors,
13 homelessness is on the rise across the country; and
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15 WHEREAS, Nationally there are between 1.6 and 2.1 million youth ages 12-24 who are
16 homeless over the course of a year;¹ and
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18 WHEREAS, There are an estimated 12,000 to 15,000 homeless youth living on Los
19 Angeles County streets and another 10,000 living in the Bay Area;² and
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21 WHEREAS, In Contra Costa County there was a 37% increase in youth homelessness
22 between 2010 and 2011;³ and
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25 ¹ <http://cahomelessyouth.library.ca.gov/docs/pdf/A-QuickOverview-of-HY-inCA.pdf>.

² <http://covenanthousecalifornia.org/statistics-pg.php>.

³ <http://newamericamedia.org/2011/10/youth-homelessness-on-the-rise-in-richmond-ca.php>.

1 WHEREAS, The majority of these youth will not receive access to housing services
2 because of a lack of funding; and

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4 WHEREAS, In Los Angeles there are only 468 beds that are supposed to serve 12,000
5 to 15,000 youth;⁴ and

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7 WHEREAS, While there are many organizations in California that serve homeless
8 youth, there is little collaboration between nonprofits and government-funded programs; and

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10 WHEREAS, The creation of a statewide Office of the Homeless Youth Advocate, as
11 laid out in Assembly Bill 2547 (Blumenfield), which is currently being considered by the
12 California State Legislature, would improve the coordination of services for homeless youth;
13 and

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15 WHEREAS, The Office Homeless Youth Advocate would also save the state money by
16 reducing expenditures related to overlapping of services; and

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18 WHEREAS, Overall, the Office of the Homeless Youth advocate would reduce barriers
19 to service and ensure that more homeless youth are provided with quality services that will
20 greatly improve their living conditions and lives; now, therefore, be it

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22 RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Youth Commission urges Mayor Lee and the
23 Board of Supervisors to support AB 2547 and the creation of a statewide Office of the
24 Homeless Youth Advocate.

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⁴ <http://covenanthousecalifornia.org/statistics-pg.php>.

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Leah LaCroix

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2011-2012 YOUTH COMMISSION CHAIR
ADOPTED BY YOUTH COMMISSION
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