

**MOTION BY SUPERVISORS MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS AND
JANICE HAHN**

MAY 8, 2018

**OPPOSITION TO SECRETARY CARSON’S PROPOSED “MAKING AFFORDABLE
HOUSING WORK ACT”**

On April 25, 2018, Ben Carson, Secretary of the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), introduced the “Making Affordable Housing Work Act” (Act). The provisions of the Act may have devastating impact for families that rely on public assistance, including: 1) tripling the minimum monthly rent that some families receiving housing assistance must pay, from \$50 to \$150; 2) raising the rent for tenants in subsidized housing to 35 percent of gross income, up from the current standard of 30 percent of adjusted income; and 3) allowing public housing authorities to impose work requirements.

This proposal could have a devastating effect on Los Angeles County (County), which has one of the nation’s least affordable housing markets, and as a result, the largest homeless population. These proposed changes could further compound the financial and housing insecurities faced by lower-income families throughout the County, leaving families at higher risk of homelessness and compounding the stress on other government systems including health, public safety, social services and homeless services.

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SOLIS _____

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There is a need to reform the existing, archaic provisions that regulate public housing, but this work should be done in collaboration and coordination with local public housing authorities in order to develop a plan that meaningfully and thoughtfully lifts individuals and families out of poverty instead of exacerbates the crisis.

WE THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

Direct the Chief Executive Officer to send a 5-signature letter to Secretary Ben Carson to relay the Los Angeles County (County) Board of Supervisors' opposition to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development's proposed "Making Affordable Housing Work Act" and work with the County's Congressional Legislation to advocate for policy reform that lifts individuals and families out of poverty.

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