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RESOLUTION

OCT 06 1998

WHEREAS, the number of homeless, throughout the United States, is increasing at an alarming rate; and recent statistics show that there are nearly 230,000 homeless in Los Angeles City and County alone, although numerous other urban areas in the United States are at least equally affected; and

WHEREAS, Los Angeles is in the forefront of cities worldwide in formulating and activating new, working solutions to the problems confronting urban citizenry in our era; and

WHEREAS, neither Los Angeles nor any other major United States city possesses the financial resources to solve the problem of homelessness in the country, nor to eradicate its numerous and complex causes; and

WHEREAS, a national plan to end homelessness is urgently needed, and must be a well-organized, concerted program at federal governmental level: municipal and state efforts, alone, would lead to mere temporary progress and to regional imbalances; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of Los Angeles is also mindful that, lacking the necessary resources, Los Angeles and other cities nationwide have had no alternative but to address behavioral aspects of urban homelessness by means of police enforcement of a wide variety of municipal ordinances; and

WHEREAS, it is becoming increasingly apparent that certain of those ordinances not only contribute to greater human misery among the homeless, but may also create crimes of status, of questionable constitutionality, both California and Federal;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of Los Angeles endorses and supports a comprehensive national plan to end homelessness, and that it urges the President of the United States, the United States Congress, and other relevant federal agencies to develop and implement a comprehensive national plan to end homelessness.

Reso'l

ADOPTED

OCT 13 1998

LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL

PRESENTED BY _____

RITA WALTERS
Councilwoman 9th District

SECONDED BY _____

FORTHWITH