**Criminalization:**

1. California SB 876—Right to Rest
   1. Summary of the Bill:

This Bill would allow those experiencing homelessness to sleep, eat, and worship freely in public areas, regardless of housing status. Those who violate this measure would be fined up to $1,000. The Bill would also require agencies acting as Continuum of Care providers to disclose the steps they are taking to prevent the criminalization of homelessness in their communities on their C o C Application.[[1]](#footnote-1)

* 1. How it will impact people experiencing homelessness:
     1. Will reduce barriers in securing housing, employment and medical care
     2. Decriminalizing life sustaining acts will shift the focus from enforcement to addressing the root causes of homelessness and poverty
  2. Limitations:
     1. The ability to rest shall not apply to public spaces during a time when it is closes to all persons or when a fee is required for entry or use

1. San Francisco: “Housing Not Tents”
   1. Summary of the Bill:

This legislation, aimed at getting the homeless off the streets of San Francisco, would give those living in tents 24 hours to relocate to a living space given to them by the city. While this Bill may sound promising, it is fairly well known that the city does not currently have adequate housing or shelter space for every person experiencing homelessness.[[2]](#footnote-2)

* 1. How it will impact people experiencing homelessness:
     1. This law is specifically targeting individuals and families living in encampments
     2. Without enough shelter space and affordable housing this law will only push people from one spot to the next without any real change in their housing status
     3. This could create dysfunction when trying to retrieve individuals things such as loss of identification, medication and other important paperwork

**Data collection:**

1. California SB 2256
   1. Summary of the Bill:

This Bill would require homeless service providers to submit an annual report to the California Health and Human Services Agency consisting of information regarding homeless persons, notably homeless children and youth. The state would be required to reimburse agencies and schools for their work.[[3]](#footnote-3)

* 1. How it will impact people experiencing homelessness:
     1. This law and information provided by homeless service providers will help develop a statewide database of information regarding homeless children or youth, individuals and the public services they use
     2. The data will enable the state and local governments to develop better programs to target the needs and to better utilize funding and other resources

**Education:**

1. California SB 445
   1. Summary of the Bill:

The focus of this Bill is ensuring that homeless children are able to continue attending their school of origin throughout the duration of their homelessness. Additionally, it reinforces laws requiring youth in foster care and homeless youth to be supported by an educational liaison that can help them in the case of school or district transfers. The Bill expands provisions to include charter schools, which would be responsible for providing additional services for homeless students and those in foster care. The state will be mandated to reimburse service agencies and school districts for these provisions.[[4]](#footnote-4)

* 1. How it will impact people experiencing homelessness:
     1. Allows homeless children to continue his or her education in the school of origin through the duration of homelessness
     2. If the student is in a new school, the new school must immediately enroll student even if the student has outstanding fees, and/or does not have full academic or medical records
     3. Bill will expand to all charter schools
  2. Limitations:
     1. Does not require a school district to provide transportation services to allow a homeless child to attend a school or school district unless required under the federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act or other Federal Law

**Homeless Youth:**

1. California AB 1699- Homeless Youth Emergency Service Projects
   1. Summary of the Bill:

This Bill would mandate the Office of Emergency Services to increase their focus on homeless youth services. The Office would be required to develop criteria for recipients of grants, as well as dictate the size of grants. In order to receive a grant, agencies must provide up to 36 months of transitional housing for homeless youth, as well as employment and education support. Overall, the Bill would increase funding for homeless youth emergency service programs by 25 million dollars.[[5]](#footnote-5)

* 1. How it will impact people experiencing homelessness:
     1. Will expand pilot programs and services to other counties in California besides Los Angels County, Santa Clara, San Diego, San Francisco with the priority given to counties that lack existing services
     2. A lot more funding and services will be given to underfunded segment of the homeless population
  2. Limitations
     1. Transitional housing will only be available for 18-24 year olds

**Affordable Housing:**

1. Los Angeles City: Proposition HHH: Homeless Reduction and Prevention, Housing and Facilities General Obligation Bond Program
   1. Summary of the Bill:

Proposition HHH or (H) will invoke a 0.012% increase on property taxes, creating general obligation bonds and aggregating an estimated $1.2 billion to fund the creation of the Homelessness Reduction and Prevention, Housing and Facilities General Obligation Bond Program, which will create affordable housing, supportive housing, and other services that will address veteran’s family, chronic, at-risk and temporary homelessness.

* 1. How will it impact people experience homelessness:
     1. Will create temporary shelter, supportive housing and affordable housing units for individuals and families who are experiencing homelessness
  2. Limitations:
     1. Only 20% of the bond will be allocated to create affordable housing

1. Los Angles: Prop JJJ: Affordable Housing and Labor Standards for General Plan Amendments and Zoning Changes or Build Better LA
   1. Summary of the Bill:

Proposition JJJ will stimulate the local economy and create more affordable housing units through amending the Los Angeles Municipal Code. The proposed amendments include but not limited to:

* Splitting the city into 37 planning areas, each with a unique community district plan. These areas must notify the city of any new zoning, and are prohibited from implementing any zoning changes that reduce the capacity for the creation or preservation of affordable housing
* Incentivizing developers to build by offering access to state programs such as the Transit Oriented Communities Affordable Housing Incentive Program and the California Affordable Housing Incentive Program. It also allows developers to access loopholes to traditional size/zoning laws so long as they are in compliance with the following labor and affordability requirements:
  + Developers must employ at least 30% local LA residents; 10% of which are transitional workers located within 5 miles of the project; 60% of laborers from a “Joint Labor Management” apprenticeship or another State or federally-approved apprenticeship program
  + New residential buildings must build a certain percentage of affordable units based on zoning. The proposal also allows for developers to build off-site affordable units, or to pay a fee to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund equivalent to an affordable unit’s worth.
  1. How it will impact people experiencing homelessness:
     1. Can create more affordable housing units in LA
  2. Limitations:
     1. There are no assurance that these new zoning loopholes will result in a sizeable increase in affordable housing
     2. This could inflate the housing market
     3. Could create place-based discrimination, by allowing developers to transplant their affordable units off-site. Segregating residents by class and housing status has serious community and civil rights implications that should be considered before moving forwards with such legislation

1. Santa Monica: Measure GSH & GS:
   1. Summary of the Bill:

Measure GSH proposes to increase sales tax from 0.5% to 1%. The tax increase is proposed as a way to increase local revenue an additional $16 million in order to better invest in education and affordable housing/homeless prevention. Measure GS is an accompany non-binding advisory vote that asks voters, if Measure GSH should pass, would they prefer the subsequent revenue to be used 50% toward education and 50% to affordable housing and reducing homelessness?

* 1. How it will impact people experiencing homelessness:
     1. Will allow the city to reinvest in affordable housing and bettering school infrastructure
  2. Limitations:
     1. There is no direct tie for this new revenue to be spent on affordable housing

1. Santa Monica: Measure LV or Land Use Voter Empowerment
   1. Summary of the Bill:

Under this measure, voters would be given the power to approve or deny requests to build above the height restriction (2 stories). As a new developer seeking to build above two stories would be required to hold a special election, and pay for all costs associated with the special election. Affordable housing, moderate housing, and senior housing would be exempt from this height restriction.

* 1. How it will impact people experiencing homelessness:
     1. Could create more affordable housing
  2. Limitations:
     1. This measure does not place income restrictions on senior housing which could result in luxury senior condos
     2. Requiring a vote by voters every time a developer sought to build up in Santa Monica would bring money from special interests into local elections.

1. SB-876 Homelessness. (2016, January 14). Retrieved August 01, 2016, from https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill\_id=201520160SB876 [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Nevius, C. (2016, June 27). Mark Farrell's 'Housing Not Tents' measure likely to hit home. Retrieved August 01, 2016, from http://www.sfchronicle.com/bayarea/nevius/article/Mark-Farrell-s-Housing-Not-Tents-measure-8328205.php [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. AB-2256 Homelessness: Report. (2016, February 18). Retrieved August 01, 2016, from https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill\_id=201520160AB2256 [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. SB-445 Pupil instruction and services: Homeless children: Foster children. (2015, September 09). Retrieved August 01, 2016, from https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill\_id=201520160SB445 [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. AB-1699 Homeless youth emergency service projects. (2016, January 25). Retrieved August 01, 2016, from https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill\_id=201520160AB1699 [↑](#footnote-ref-5)