AGN. NO. _____

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR LINDSEY P. HORVATH May 5, 2026

Support for Assembly Bill 1573 (Bryan) - Supportive Housing Services for Survivors of Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, and Human Trafficking

California's housing crisis has exposed critical gaps in how we plan for and support our most vulnerable residents. While cities and counties are required to assess housing needs through their General Plans, survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking, who face disproportionately high rates of housing instability and homelessness, are not explicitly accounted for in these assessments. Assembly Bill 1573 (AB 1573), introduced by Assemblymember Isaac Bryan, would require jurisdictions to account for these survivors in their Housing Elements, helping expand access to safe and appropriate housing.

According to the Homeless Data Integration System (HDIS) HELP Act Dashboard, in 2024, 10% of people experiencing homelessness in California returned to services, compared to 15% of unaccompanied women and 14% of domestic violence survivors. The 2023 California Violence Experience Survey (CalVEX) found that individuals with a history of homelessness were four times more likely to report past-year intimate partner violence than those without (9% vs. 2%). Similarly, HUD's 2024 report Housing Needs of

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Survivors of Human Trafficking found that 8% of survivors reported unstable housing and 7% reported being runaway or homeless youth—rates that rose to 14% for both among sex trafficking survivors. The Polaris National Survivor Survey further found that 64% of survivors experienced homelessness or housing insecurity during childhood. Together, these data show that survivors are disproportionately affected by housing instability and are more likely to cycle through homelessness. Addressing these disparities requires planning that centers safety, confidentiality, and access to appropriate services.

The Housing Element includes an analysis of various forms of special housing, emergency shelter, and supportive housing needs for a particular city or county. The definition for the “target population” was placed in the Housing Element Law in 2014. The “target population” in existing law includes low-income people, veterans, people with developmental and physical disabilities, those with mental illness, chronic health conditions like HIV or AIDS, elderly persons, young adults aging out of the foster care system, individuals exiting from institutional settings, and homeless people. However, survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking are not explicitly identified, despite their documented overrepresentation among people experiencing housing instability.

While the County has taken steps to facilitate by-right domestic violence shelters and supportive housing through the 2021 Interim and Supportive Housing Ordinance, AB 1573 will ensure that survivors of domestic violence, human trafficking, and sexual assault are included in the assessment of supportive housing statewide. By adding these survivors to the list of targeted populations, the bill ensures that cities and counties analyze their unique housing, emergency shelter, and supportive service needs as part

of updates to a Housing Element. This legislation would move California toward a more inclusive housing framework and affirm that these populations have unique needs that need to be better understood. In doing so, AB 1573 will uphold California's commitment to supporting survivors in rebuilding their lives while strengthening the health, safety, and resilience of communities statewide.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct the Chief Executive Office-Legislative Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations to support Assembly Bill 1573 (Bryan), which aims to protect survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking by ensuring that local governments assess the need for supportive housing services for survivors when updating their Housing Element.

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