

CITY OF LOS ANGELES CALIFORNIA

URBAN NEEDS AND RESOURCES

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DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL URBAN NEEDS AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE LETTER SUPPLEMENT

Supplement for:

Urban_Needs-2023-12-20-Letter-4118_Assessment-DRAFT.pdf

Source:

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/41.18>

Section 41.18 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) was authored by former Councilmember Paul H. Lampert and originally enacted in 1963 as an anti-loitering law used to police public space in Los Angeles.

2006, *Jones v. The City of Los Angeles* came before the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. The court upheld a ruling that 41.18(d) was a violation of the Eighth Amendment, which prohibits cruel and unusual punishment. The settlement of the case concluded that the city of Los Angeles agreed not to enforce 41.18(d) until they had provided 1,250 units of permanent public housing.

When looking for actual enforcement of Section 41.18(d), data shows police tend to target unhoused people in the city.[9] The law states that anyone who violates LAMC Section 41.18(d) shall be subject to the penalties set forth in LAMC Section 11.00, which states the violation as a misdemeanor, and an imprisonable offense that includes fines.

Federal judges have repeatedly issued court orders to stop the City of Los Angeles from seizing and destroying the property of unhoused people.

Unhoused individuals are swept from one place to the next without offers of housing or services, facing a continuous cycle of displacement, social isolation and banishment.

Request a map or list of Special Enforcement Zones (SECZs), council-designated special zones within their districts which step up enforcement of Section 41.18(d).

The City Council votes on areas to become Special Enforcement Zones which states that persons and items placed in these zones will be removed by the city. The zones are meant to apply to "sensitive use" sites, which includes everything from driveways, entrances, exits, fire hydrants, city-permitted activity, overpasses, streets, ADA access, public libraries, homeless shelters, parks and schools.

In 2021, Councilmember Joe Buscaino set a motion to ban encampments 500 feet from all public schools and libraries.

Special Enforcement Zones cover approximately 20% of the City of Los Angeles.

July 1, 2021, with a vote of 13-2. A second vote was required because it did not pass unanimously the first time around. The second vote also had 13 in favor and two against. Councilmembers Nithya Raman and Mike Bonin both voted against the ordinance. The amended Section 41.18(d) was co-authored by city council members Paul Krekorian and Mark Ridley-Thomas.