

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
PALM SPRINGS SUPPORTING CALIFORNIA AB 2706  
(LOWENTHAL) AMENDING THE CAL. CIVIL CODE TO  
DEEM VIOLENCE AGAINST HOMELESS PEOPLE OR  
THEIR PROPERTY AS A HATE CRIME FOR CIVIL  
LITIGATION

WHEREAS, an estimated 157,000 people in the State of California are without homes; and

WHEREAS, 30,000 of those people are veterans of the United States military; and

WHEREAS, Riverside County's 2009 Homeless Count & Survey had a "one-day, point-in-time" count of 203. This included those sheltered (i.e., emergency and transitional housing) and unsheltered (i.e. outdoors, encampments, uninhabitable structure, etc.); and

WHEREAS, homeless individuals are more likely to suffer from mental and physical illness, and less likely to receive comprehensive medical treatment; and

WHEREAS, California has the second-highest rate of violence against homeless people in the nation; and

WHEREAS, in the last year alone, homeless people have been set on fire, stabbed, shot, and beaten with baseball bats; and

WHEREAS, perpetrators of those attacks act under the theory that the likelihood of suffering legal consequences from their actions is not as high as it would be if they assaulted another member of the community; and

WHEREAS, AB 2706 seeks to change those calculations of risk; and

WHEREAS, AB 2706 declares that a homeless person has the same right as other Californians to be free from violence or intimidation; and

WHEREAS, AB 2706 confers upon a homeless person the right to sue his or her attacker for enhanced civil penalties should an act of violence be committed against them on the basis of their homeless status; and

WHEREAS, the passage of AB 2706 would send a message that California's government seeks to guard the rights of all its residents; and

WHEREAS, the Palm Springs Human Rights Commission encourages the City Council of the City of Palm Springs to support the adoption of AB 2706.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PALM SPRINGS DOES HEREBY  
RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. To encourage the California Legislature to pass, and the Governor  
to sign AB 2706.

ADOPTED THIS 21<sup>ST</sup> DAY OF JULY, 2010.

\_\_\_\_\_  
David H. Ready, City Manager

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
James Thompson, City Clerk

#### CERTIFICATION

STATE OF CALIFORNIA )  
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE ) ss.  
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS )

I, JAMES THOMPSON, City Clerk of the City of Palm Springs, hereby certify that  
Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_ is a full, true and correct copy, and was duly adopted at a regular  
meeting of the City Council of the City of Palm Springs on \_\_\_\_\_,  
by the following vote:

AYES:  
NOES:  
ABSENT:  
ABSTAIN:

\_\_\_\_\_  
James Thompson, City Clerk  
City of Palm Springs, California