



# CALIFORNIA ASSEMBLY BILL 5



## Homeless Person's Bill of Rights and Fairness Act

May 20, 2013

### This Bill Would

- Protect homeless people's right to use public spaces and engage in life-sustaining activities such as sleeping and resting
- Create Hygiene Centers to provide a sanitary and healthy alternative for people who don't have access to bathrooms or basic hygiene needs
- Prevent homeless people from being unfairly targeted by police and private security just for *appearing homeless*
- Provide homeless people the right to counsel whenever the District Attorney is in court to prosecute them for infractions
- Prohibit discrimination based on housing status for government services
- Require local governments to report on enforcement of what are often labeled as "Quality of Life" laws

### This Bill Would Not

- Permit anyone, homeless or not, to harass people on the streets or maliciously block sidewalks
- Allow people to urinate and defecate publicly
- Prevent homeless people's belongings from being searched if there is just cause
- Allow homeless people to harm or interfere with local businesses' operations
- Grant homeless individuals "special rights" over all other citizens
- Infringe on landlords' property rights
- Allow homeless people to act with impunity and disregard for local laws
- Require officers to ascertain if people they interact with are homeless or not

*Not Special Rights, Equal Rights!*