

On October 10, 2025, Governor Newsom signed SB634 into California Law. As of today, Shasta County and Redding could face heavy penalties or suits for their non-compliance.

The following are key excerpts, we should KNOW BETTER to DO BETTER.

Section 1: California State Legislature declares the need for this correction of injustices suffered by the outdoor camping homeless and their advocates.

(See “Underbelly of Sweeps”⁴)

Section 2: 11145.1 is added to Government Code to read: 11145.1 “Not withstanding any other law, a state agency shall not adopt any regulation or issue any policy or guidance, or **enforce an existing** regulation, policy, or guidance, that imposes **civil or criminal** penalties on a person who is homeless for **any act immediately related to homelessness**, or any act related to **basic survival**, or on a **person who is assisting** a person who is homeless with anything any act related to basic survival.”

following definitions apply:

(1) ...“**immediately related**”...means standing, sitting, laying, or sleeping in a public place, including, but not limited to, a public street, public park, or other outdoor area open to the public.

(2) “**related to basic survival**”includes, but is not limited to, the possession of a tent or tarp, erection of tent or tarp, eating or drinking, possessing and utilizing blankets or pillows, seeking shade, and other activities to protect oneself from the elements.

Section 3 53068.44 “Not withstanding any other law, a local jurisdiction shall **not adopt a local ordinance, or enforce an existing ordinance**, that imposes civil or criminal penalties, or on a person who is homeless for any act immediately related to homelessness or any act related to basic survival, or on a person who is assisting a person who is homeless with **any act related to basic survival**”

Section 4: “The Legislature finds and declares that **ensuring a compassionate and evidence based approach** to ending homelessness is a matter of statewide concern rather than a municipal affair as that term is used in Section 5 of Article XI of the California Constitution. Therefore, Section 3 of this act, adding Section 53069.44 to the Government Code, **applies to all cities**, including charter cities.