



## Statement on The Supreme Court's Decision to uphold Ban on sleeping outdoors 6/28/2024.

At Lutheran Social Services of Northern California, we are deeply troubled by the recent Supreme Court decision to uphold the ban on sleeping outdoors in homelessness cases. This ruling not only criminalizes the most vulnerable members of our society but also fails to address the root causes of homelessness.

Homelessness is a complex issue that requires compassion, understanding, and comprehensive solutions. Criminalizing individuals for simply trying to find a place to rest exacerbates the problem and diverts resources away from meaningful interventions. Instead of punitive measures, we should be investing in affordable housing, mental health services, and supportive programs that provide a path to stability and self-sufficiency.

We stand with our clients and all individuals experiencing homelessness, advocating for policies that promote dignity and respect. It's time to focus on long-term solutions that address the systemic issues leading to homelessness, rather than penalizing those who are already struggling.

Join us in urging our lawmakers to reconsider this decision and work towards a more just and humane approach to homelessness. Together, we can make a difference and end homelessness for good.

Appreciatively,

Carol Roberts, PhD

CEO