RESOLVED, That the American Bar Association opposes the enactment of, and supports the repeal of, laws and policies that:

1) punish persons experiencing homelessness for carrying out otherwise non-criminal life sustaining practices or acts in public spaces, such as eating, sitting, sleeping, or camping, when no alternative private spaces are available;

2) are enforced against persons experiencing homelessness to a greater extent than others who engage in the same practice or act; or

3) punish persons for providing food, shelter, or other critical assistance to people who are homeless.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the American Bar Association urges federal, state, territorial and local courts, prosecutors, defense counsel, and probation and parole officers, in carrying out their respective functions, to consider the problems faced by homeless individuals who may be forced to engage in otherwise non-criminal life-sustaining practices in public spaces because no alternative private spaces are available.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the American Bar Association urges national, state, territorial and local bar associations to work in cooperation with courts, lawmakers, law enforcement, advocates, service providers and people experiencing homelessness to:

1) revise laws and policies to recognize the problems faced by the homeless when the demand for shelter, housing and services exceeds the supply; and

2) support efforts to increase shelter, housing and services to adequately address the needs of homeless individuals.