

RESOLUTION NO. 20181129-042

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WHEREAS, Texas regulates providers of certain health and personal care services under Texas Health and Safety Code Chapters 142, 242, 246, 247, and 252; and

WHEREAS, state-regulated services include medical care delivered by licensed physicians or nurses as well as personal care services such as assistance with feeding, dressing, moving, bathing or other personal needs or maintenance; and

WHEREAS, individuals with mental health needs and physical disabilities who do not meet the threshold for state-regulated services may need certain services that are not regulated by the state (hereinafter referred to as clients); and

WHEREAS, local providers offer clients housing and domestic care services, which include commonplace activities such as light housework, grocery shopping, laundry service, and also more crucial services such as money management, transportation, and assistance with self-administration of medication; and

WHEREAS, these providers meet a vital public need for these clients; and

WHEREAS, these services are critical to the health and wellbeing of their clients, and yet state law does not require these providers to complete any training to support or manage clients with unique health needs; and

WHEREAS, these providers are in a position to exercise a level of influence and control over the welfare of their clients; and

21 **WHEREAS**, City Council recognizes a need for training and licensing for
22 individuals and entities who provide housing and domestic care services to clients with
23 unique health needs; **NOW, THEREFORE,**

24 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

25 The City Council directs the City Manager to explore opportunities and options to
26 improve the standard of care offered by providers of housing and domestic care services to
27 clients with physical and mental health-related issues who do not receive state-regulated
28 services; and to evaluate whether the opportunities and options explored will safeguard
29 clients' health and safety while avoiding unintended consequences that would decrease the
30 vital services offered by providers. With the intent of maintaining and expanding the
31 provision of services offered by providers, [T]he City Council encourages the City
32 Manager to explore the viability of licensing individuals (and entities) who provide these
33 services, who are not subject to state regulation and an incentive program for those
34 providers who improve the quality of life for their clients.

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

36 The City Council directs the City Manager to return with recommendations by April
37 25, 2019.

39 **ADOPTED:** _____, 2018 **ATTEST:** _____
40 Jannette S. Goodall
41 City Clerk