

My solution for the halfway house situation is for the addiction centers that currently treat these individuals to also build housing within the zoned business area where they are located.

LINDA HICKS,
Huntington Beach, California.

The presence of unregulated Sober Living Homes in our city has negatively impacted our residential communities. These unregulated businesses recruit and attract addicts requiring professional treatment for their issues and have no accountability for adequately providing necessary care for their clients. Residential areas, such as my neighborhood in Huntington Beach, are overrun with multiple such "homes" that bring additional crime, traffic, noise and nuisance to our peaceful communities. One of my neighbors, whom lives next door to a SLH, has reported active drug dealing on the front lawn of the house, in the presence of his minor children. These SLH are businesses profiting from loopholes in government oversight regulations that have robbed our communities and our citizens of our peace, in our own homes. Law abiding citizens and neighbors living in our residential communities should not have to co-exist and tolerate "businesses" that are operating under the radar of the law, in our own homes. Business should be located in areas zoned for business operations, not in residential neighborhoods. Please restore the peace and tranquility of our communities by eliminating SLH from our residential communities.

KRISTINE KOCH,
Huntington Beach, California.

Dear Congressman Rohrabacher, my family and I have seen the negative impact from influx of unlicensed sober living homes in our neighborhood. Common effects are loitering transients, public intoxication, public drug use and littering of used paraphernalia, prostitution, petty theft including stealing of packages on doorsteps, breaking into cars and at times residents homes.

I have been a resident of Orange County, California since 1979 and a resident of Costa Mesa since 1999. I can say firsthand the deterioration of Costa Mesa is evident the past 19 years. As a father three children and homeowner I strongly encourage action by our government to resolve and/or prevent of unlicensed sober living homes in our city and county. If this does not occur, then I like other similar families will look to relocate and raise our children in a safer, crimeless environment.

GRAHAM SHUTE,
Costa Mesa, California.

There is Sober Living home that opened on my street. I don't know why they're pretending to be a sober living home because they've already found a bag of heroin not far from the house. This house is located two doors down from a public middle school. Hundreds of kids walked by the house and or are dropped off in front of this house daily. This such facility has no business in a family community. Neighbors complain that there has been strange people coming in and out of the house. Two of those strange people were knocking on resident doors and even jumped the fence and went into one of their backyards and walked into their house when they were being chased by the police. I believe sober living homes have no business in residential neighborhoods because they are bringing down the quality of life and safety for the residences around them.

GINA WALTERS,
Huntington Beach, California.

We have lived in our current residence on [REDACTED] for the past 16 years. It has

been an outstanding neighborhood to live in and raise our 3 children. Unfortunately, our peaceful little neighborhood has experienced a drastic change in recent months with the unwelcome addition of a sober living house right down the street. Since the arrival of the occupants, we have experienced a few notable incidents with the most recent being a few individuals that apparently were doing drugs around the corner and were quickly pursued by the Huntington Beach Police Department. This led to the individuals fleeing through multiple backyards and actually entering a residence in an attempt to hide from the police. The individuals were caught on video at one of our neighbor's houses which showed them moving around the perimeter of the residence as they were attempting to hide from the authorities. During that evening, the residents right next door to the sober living house were holding a sleepover for 8 young girls in their backyard. This is a little too close for comfort. In addition, there is a middle school located less than 100 yards from the sober living home and is in the direct foot travel path of children walking home from school. It is our understanding that the transient nature of these sober living houses will introduce new residents every 8 weeks. This means a whole new set of problems will rotate through every 2 months. For the safety of our children, the children at our local schools, and the safety of our own properties I am requesting action to be taken to place stricter oversight on the introduction of sober living houses allowed in residential neighborhoods and if possible limit the number of them being implemented. We have a serious problem here in California with criminals being released early due to budget reductions being placed on our correctional facilities and the good tax paying citizens of this state have to deal with that fallout. We need effective changes that protect our neighborhoods and our kids.

STEVE TRESKES,
Huntington Beach, California.

I grew up in a State Legislator's home, growing up as a Wolcott (Raymond Oliver Wolcott was my Grandfather, John B. Wolcott, his son, raised me). I had a decent upbringing. Later in life, I was ill prepared for my daughter's death from S.I.D.S. or crib death. She was 4.5 months old. My drinking and marijuana usage escalated to a point where I simply could not contain it. Mercifully, I discovered sobriety. So did the mother of our daughter. We were told by numerous doctors that getting pregnant again was improbable (as she had three living kids and previous problematic pregnancies before I met her) yet imagine our surprise to the birth of fraternal twin girls. No in vitro or otherwise modern birth science, just a sobriety miracle in our eyes. My twins are 19 and currently they're enrolled at a junior college in the Texas A&M School System. I am very certain sobriety and sober living assisted them in their development. Although I am divorced and have had three relapses, I also have had twenty two years of sober time in my life.

I have a brief attached for a "Christian-sober living" that may appear rather convoluted, however its main highlights are: have events scheduled to keep residents away from the home (so as to minimize riffraff from visitors), cash and carry instead of billable to insurance (No cash on site method of payment), and a giving back mentality with nurses or doctors that are on call with on staff managers and graduates who need their hours tallied before accreditation. Thank You.

DEDER BARNES,
Huntington Beach, California.

HONORING THE 100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE OHIO CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION

HON. JAMES B. RENACCI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 19, 2018

Mr. RENACCI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the Ohio Contractors Association, an organization of more than 500 members involved in Ohio's heavy, highway and utility industry, which turned 100 years on October 10, 2018. Headquartered in Columbus, Ohio, OCA is a recognized voice for needed transportation funding, rational regulatory and legislative accountability, workforce development, improving construction practices and relationship building within the industry.

While OCA has grown in membership, its mission, although expanded, can be traced to its origin when 50 contractors across the state signed an agreement to form the association. The first meeting of the "Ohio Road Contractors' Association" was October 10, 1918 in Columbus, Ohio. That initial meeting not only adopted a resolution to drop "Road" from its name and become the Ohio Contractors Association, it also created and individually voted upon the acceptances of 10 sections of its constitution.

Today, more than 200 Contractor Members and 300 Associate Members provide support, unity and leadership to Ohio's heavy, highway and utility industry. OCA maintains its statewide relevance through its nine, Ohio local chapters. Chapter events in combination with statewide committees, events and publications assure that members have the opportunity to provide input and interact with OCA staff so the association remains aware of the issues and concerns of its members and can represent them in a meaningful way. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize an organization that has and continues to lead the heavy-highway and utility construction industry in Ohio.

HONORING IRMALEE SCHUMACHER WITH CALIFORNIA'S THIRD DISTRICT WOMAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 19, 2018

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Irmalee Schumacher as a woman of the year. She is a sensational educator and dedicated volunteer who has long devoted herself to the betterment of Colusa County. As a teacher for Williams Elementary School and Colusa Preschool, Ms. Schumacher's passion for shaping young minds has been an inspiration to her students and fellow educators. Over the past 21 years, she has led and coordinated the Super Seven Awards Program which recognizes the top seven 11th and 12th grade students from Colusa High School for their outstanding scholastic achievement. Ms. Schumacher takes the time to write each student a highly individualized biography to present to them at their awards dinner where her attention to detail and light-hearted touch always manage to bring the event to life. Furthermore, Ms. Schumacher has been instrumental in coordinating and executing the