

ASSEMBLY BILL 2329 (CHIU)

STATEWIDE PLAN TO ADDRESS HOMELESSNESS

SUMMARY

This bill would require the Homelessness Coordinating and Financing Council (Council) to analyze the services and housing available at the local and state level to address homelessness.

BACKGROUND

Communities across California have been performing gaps or needs analyses to steer resources in a more targeted way. A needs analysis identifies:

- What the community specifically needs in terms of supportive housing, rapid re-housing, affordable housing, services, and shelters, based on local data;
- What the community currently has in terms of supportive housing, rapid re-housing, affordable housing, services, and shelters;
- The gap between #1 and #2; and
- A financial model for filling the gap.

These analyses allow communities to target their resources more effectively toward meeting their needs.

THE PROBLEM

Over 151,000 Californians experience homelessness at any point in time. Two to three times that number are homeless during the course of a year. People experiencing homelessness die, on average, 25 years younger and are at far greater risk of experiencing hospitalization, incarceration, and foster care than their housed counterparts.

In recent years, the State has responded to our homeless crisis through greater investment of funds and resources. In 2019, the state allocated \$1 billion responding to respond to the homeless crisis. The Governor's 2020 budget proposes spending over \$1 billion on programs to reduce homelessness. However, as a recent Legislative Analyst's Office Report stated, "In the absence of a clear strategy, state resources could be allocated in a less targeted/coordinated way."

State investments have, in fact, not been guided by what California needs to make a significant progress in reducing homelessness. The state needs a clear strategy

to respond to the homelessness based on assessing the existing gaps and resources needed to meet the needs of people experiencing homelessness.

THE SOLUTION

AB 2329 addresses this issue by requiring the Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council to analyze local, state, and national data to develop a statewide needs assessment on homelessness.

This analysis will identify the needs and gaps in housing and services required statewide to make significant reductions in homelessness.

This data is critical to informing the most effective use of state funding, and will help local partners set realistic outcomes and benchmarks. With a statewide needs assessment, the Administration and Legislature will be able to better prioritize and fund specific interventions, making State resources stretch further and be more responsive to urgent need.

SUPPORT

Corporation for Supportive Housing (sponsor)
Housing California (sponsor)
American Family Housing
Brilliant Corners
California Coalition for Rural Housing
Community Housing Partnership
EAH Housing
GLIDE
Homeless Health Care Los Angeles
John Burton Advocates for Youth
LA Family Housing
LINC Housing
St. Joseph Center
Venice Community Housing

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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