

# ASSEMBLY BILL 2329 (CHIU)

## STATEWIDE PLAN TO ADDRESS HOMELESSNESS

### SUMMARY

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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

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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

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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

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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

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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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