

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

October 3, 2016

The Honorable Edmund G. Brown  
Governor  
State of California  
State Capitol, Suite 1173  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Brown:

As members of California's congressional delegation, we are writing to urge you to include additional discretionary funding in the 2017-2018 State Budget to assist communities in California, particularly in and around our urban population centers, to combat homelessness. As you are aware, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has estimated that 1 out of 5 of all homeless individuals in the U.S. reside in California. Homelessness has reached a crisis in our nation, and Congress recognized this by recommending increases in Fiscal Year 2017 appropriated funds through HUD-administered Homeless Assistance Grants. However, federal funding alone is not enough to make meaningful progress in reducing California's homeless population. Additional funding from the state and local level is needed to provide permanent, supportive housing for unsheltered individuals.

Local communities in California have proposed several measures – from dedicating general fund dollars to placing bond initiatives on the November ballot to provide housing and/or services for the homeless. The magnitude of this crisis on our local communities requires a commitment from all levels of government – federal, state, and local – to pursue solutions that will achieve results in addressing this issue. California is at a critical juncture and we urge you to work with us and our local communities to use every means at your disposal to help our communities develop real solutions by expanding the range of housing and treatment options to this vulnerable population.

We again urge that California join the federal government and local communities to commit additional resources to combat homelessness. We stand ready to work with your Administration and the Legislature to address this growing crisis in our state.

Sincerely,



Mark De

Jose Vargas

Teed W. Lee

Jared Hoffman

Bob Shum

Mark Latham CA-41

Auson Davis

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