



FACT SHEET

AB 1924 (Gabriel) – Homelessness Prevention Strategy

SUMMARY

Assembly Bill (AB) 1924 would facilitate the development of a comprehensive statewide homelessness prevention strategy, including goals, accountability measures, and homelessness prevention action plans. The bill would also help create evidence-based model homelessness prevention best practices that can be used as guidance for local programs and state agencies seeking to address California's homelessness epidemic.

BACKGROUND

California continues to grapple with a statewide homelessness crisis, with nearly 190,000 people experiencing homelessness in our state. Nearly three people use homelessness services for the first time for every person experiencing homelessness who receives housing. In certain regions of the state, such as Los Angeles County, that ratio is 4:1. In order to make meaningful progress in decreasing homelessness, we must reduce the inflow into homelessness.

Prevention is a critical, cost-effective, and equitable piece of the solution to homelessness. Homelessness prevention programs have been established in Santa Clara County, Sonoma County, and elsewhere across the state. The Los Angeles Affordable Housing Solutions Agency is poised to launch that region's first prevention system. Innovative programs like L.A. County's Homelessness Prevention Unit, which predicts who is most likely to become homeless and intervenes before they even ask for help, demonstrate what the future of prevention could look like. Emerging prevention systems and programs, in addition to existing state and local programs, would benefit from the identification and dissemination of evidence-based model practices to prevent homelessness, improving the effectiveness of scarce public resources and supporting households most at risk of becoming homeless.

THIS BILL

AB 1924 would require the California Department of Housing and Community Development to develop a statewide homelessness prevention strategy, including goals and accountability measures, and mandate relevant state agencies to develop their own homelessness prevention action plans. Additionally, the bill would require the Department to develop and disseminate model practices for preventing homelessness.

Through providing stronger direction and guidance to homelessness prevention systems and programs, AB 1924 will help California's most vulnerable residents, preventing homelessness before it occurs and preserving California's limited resources.

SUPPORT

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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