



United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0504

<http://feinstein.senate.gov>

August 15, 2016

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

Dear Jerry,

As you develop your budget for next year's 2017-2018 state fiscal year, I urge you to dedicate additional General Fund dollars to assisting California communities to combat homelessness. Despite the significant efforts of the Obama Administration and Congress to identify additional resources and policy changes to help alleviate the homeless crisis facing the nation, particularly California, it is clear that more must be done.

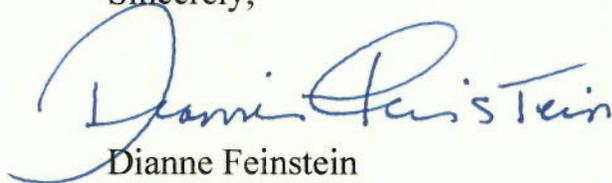
The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's 2015 Point-In-Time count estimated that California is home to 115,738 homeless individuals, 20.5 percent of the total national homeless population. That same count also found that California is home to 28.2 percent of the nation's homeless youth, 33.5 percent of the nation's chronically homeless, and 23.7 percent of the nation's homeless veterans. All of these percentages far exceed California's 12.2 percent share of the total U.S. population.

California jurisdictions have made great strides in recent years to combat homeless through local initiatives. For example, the City and County of Los Angeles have pledged \$165 million this year to fund housing and services for the homeless and are exploring bond measures to raise even more money in November. San Francisco has begun to renovate more than 2,000 distressed public housing sites and has launched a series of navigation centers to direct homeless individuals to appropriate social services and housing.

However, while I have worked closely with local leaders throughout California on the issue of homelessness, neither they nor even the federal government have access to the level of targeted resources necessary to truly address the homeless crisis facing California. As I and my staff do everything we can at the federal level to steer additional funding to California, I urge you to identify additional state resources that can be brought to bear on this crisis.

Addressing California's homeless crisis requires a sustained commitment from all levels of government, and I look forward to working closely with you and local leaders in our state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dianne Feinstein". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Dianne" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Feinstein".

Dianne Feinstein
United States Senator

DF/as/cm/pm/je