



NATIONAL COALITION
for **HOMELESS VETERANS**

Public Policy Session

NCHV Annual Conference

June 1, 2016

NCHV Policy and Advocacy



Join us:



Appropriations Update

	House	Senate	Conference & President
Military Construction & Veteran Affairs	Passed	Passed	Conferencing
Transportation/ Housing Urban Development	Committee reported	Passed	...
Labor/ Health & Human Services / Education	X	X	...

Appropriations Update

Military Construction & Veteran Affairs	President's Budget Request	House	Senate
Grant and Per Diem	\$247 million	\$247 million	\$257 million +
Supportive Services For Veteran Families	\$300 million	\$300 million	\$320 million +
HUD – VA Supportive Housing (case management dollars)	\$496 million	\$496 million	\$496 million

Appropriations Update

Transportation/ Housing and Urban Development	President's Budget Request	House	Senate
New HUD-VA Supportive Housing Vouchers	\$7 million: Tribal HUD-VASH renewal No new HUD-VASH vouchers	\$7 million: Tribal HUD-VASH renewal No new HUD-VASH vouchers	\$7 million: Tribal HUD-VASH renewal \$50 million for new HUD-VASH vouchers +

Appropriations Update

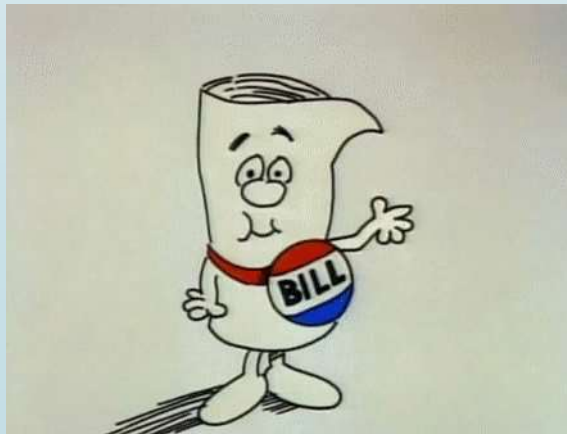
- [Hirono, Mazie - \(D - HI\)](#)
- Murphy, Christopher - (D - CT)
- Blumenthal, Richard - (D - CT)
- Peters, Gary - (D - MI)
- Boxer, Barbara – (D – CA)
- Feinstein, Dianne – (D – CA)
- Menendez, Robert – (D – NJ)
- Booker, Cory – (D – NJ)
- Reed, Jack – (D – RI)
- Manchin, Joe – (D – WV)
- Markey, Edward J. - (D - MA)
- Warren, Elizabeth - (D - MA)
- Sanders, Bernard - (I - VT)
- Klobuchar, Amy - (D - MN)
- Franken, Al – (D - MN)
- Brown, Sherrod – (D – OH)
- Wyden, Ron – (D – OR)
- Schumer, Charles - (D - NY)
- Gillibrand, Kirsten – (D – NY)
- Cantwell, Maria – (D – WA)
- Donnelly, Joe – (D – IN)
- Coons, Christopher – (D – DE)
- Baldwin, Tammy – (D – WI)
- Heinrich, Martin – (D – NM)
- [Crapo, Mike - \(R - ID\)](#)
- Tillis, Thom - (R - NC)
- Daines, Steve – (R – MT)
- Heller, Dean – (R - NV)
- Collins, Susan – (R – ME)
- Inhofe, James – (R – OK)



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Legislative Update

- ▶ The Veterans First Act, S. 2921
 - ▶ Sponsored by SVAC Chairman, Senator Johnny Isakson (R – GA)
 - ▶ Cosponsored by 40% of the Senate



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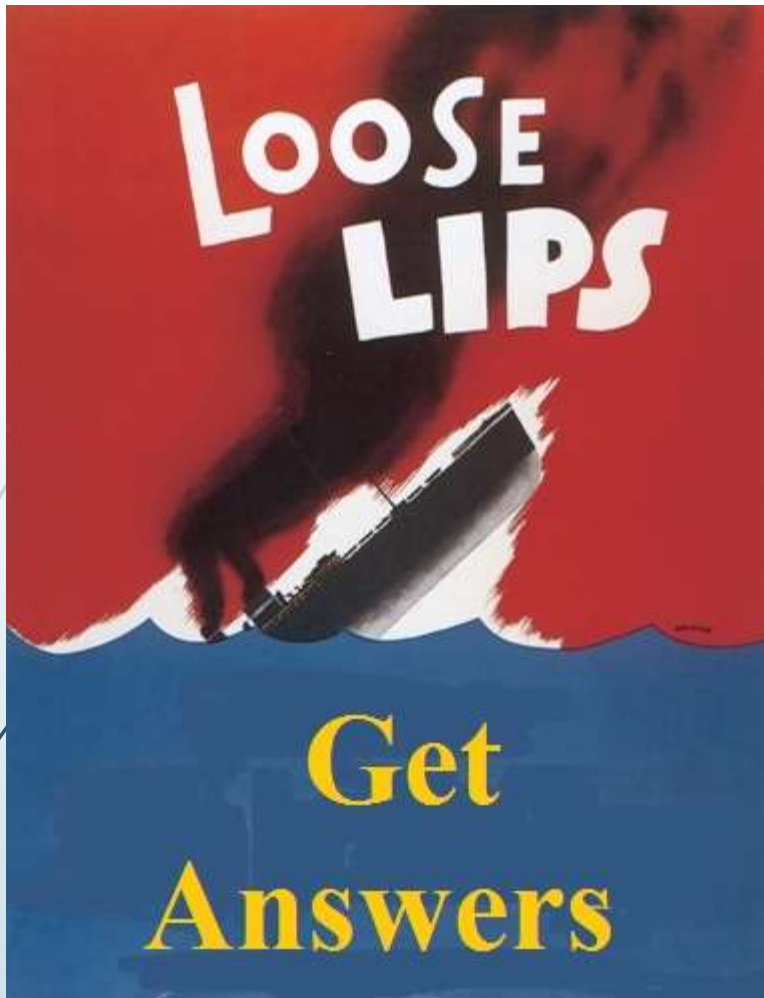
Legislative Update – Vets First Act

- ▶ Allow HUD-VASH residents to enroll in the HVRP program, (*Section 603*)
- ▶ Finally update the VA's definition of homelessness, to include the McKinney-Vento updates which allow individuals fleeing domestic violence to be considered homeless, (*Section 601*)
- ▶ Authorize a higher Per Diem rate to be paid to Transition in Place programs, (*Section 602*)
- ▶ Ease the transition for any GPD that wishes to shift mission to permanent housing provider, (*Section 604*)
- ▶ Create a pilot program to test effectiveness of intensive case management on healthcare utilization rates, (*Section 605*)



Legislative Update – Vets First Act

- ▶ Permanently authorize the National Center for Homelessness Among Veterans, (*Section 606*)
- ▶ Create an annual review for the GPD program, and strengthen performance targets for program outcomes in the areas of permanent housing and income augmentation, (*Section 607*)
- ▶ Create an expansive public-private partnership ability for the VA to provide legal services, (*Section 608*)
- ▶ Allow Per Diem to be paid to support the care of dependents accompanying a veteran, (*Section 625*)
- ▶ Permanently authorizes the use of VA homeless programs by veterans with “OTH” discharges. (*Sections 621, 622, 623*)



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Talking to Congress

- Why do advocacy?
- Identifying your impact potential.
- Types of advocacy you can do.
- Equipping yourself.
- Tips and tricks for success.



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Why do advocacy?

- What's in it for everyone?

- Knowledge
- Constituent pressure
- Interest

- What's in it for you?

- Attention



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What can you achieve?

- Where is your program? Where do you live? Where do staff live?
 - *Who is/are your Representative(s)?*
- Leadership, Committee Leadership, Committee Assignments?
- Past actions or interest
- Coming up with nothing? Don't worry:
 - *There is always the Senate.*



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Types of advocacy:

- What can you commit to? What will get you the best result?
 - **Program:** “Site visits”
 - **D.C.:** “Hill meetings”
 - **D.C.:** “Drop by’s”
 - **Local:** District Offices
 - **Remote:** emails and calls



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Equipping yourself for success

- What do I need to do to prepare for the meeting? What do I need to bring with me?
 - Program data:
 - Outcomes, costs, numbers served
 - Personal stories of success
 - Local (and some national) data
 - NCHV “One-Pagers”



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30,000 feet on national data:

- PIT count data (from latest AHAR, 2015) indicates:
 - **47,725 veterans homeless**
 - **A 35% decrease** in veteran homelessness nationally since 2010
 - And a **54% decrease** in *unsheltered* veteran homelessness
 - About 11% of the adult homeless population are veterans



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30,000 feet on national data:

- Nearly half of homeless veterans remain African American or Hispanic
- Three subpopulations increasing:
 - Women: up to 9% this year
 - OEF/OIF/OND: up to 8.8%
 - Aging veterans: Vietnam – Persian Gulf era veterans still predominate



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Local data

2007-2015-PIT-Counts-by-CoC - Excel

	A	B	C	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	AA	AB	AC	AD	AE	AF
	CoC Number	CoC Name	Total Homeless, 2015	Homeless Veterans, 2015	Sheltered Homeless Veterans, 2015	Unsheltered Homeless Veterans, 2015	Homeless Unaccompanied Youth (Under 25), 2015	Sheltered Homeless Unaccompanied Youth (Under 25), 2015	Unsheltered Homeless Unaccompanied Youth (Under 25), 2015	Homeless Children (Under 18), 2015	Sheltered Homeless Unaccompanied Children (Under 18), 2015	Unsheltered Homeless Unaccompanied Children (Under 18), 2015	Homeless Young Adults (Age 18-24), 2015	Sheltered Homeless Unaccompanied Young Adults (Age 18-24), 2015	Unsheltered Homeless Unaccompanied Young Adults (Age 18-24), 2015
23	CA-501	San Francisco CoC	6,775	557	205	352	1,473	110	1,363	125	6	119	1,348	104	1,244
24	CA-502	Oakland/Alameda County CoC	4,040	388	157	231	299	228	71	13	13	0	286	215	71
25	CA-503	Sacramento City & County CoC	2,659	313	171	142	246	96	150	7	3	4	239	93	146
26	CA-504	Santa Rosa/Petaluma/Sonoma County CoC	3,097	215	79	136	678	37	641	48	0	48	630	37	593
27	CA-505	Richmond/Contra Costa County CoC	2,031	122	44	78	140	43	97	0	0	0	140	43	97
28	CA-506	Salinas/Monterey, San Benito Counties CoC	2,959	176	55	121	324	52	272	46	0	46	278	52	226
29	CA-507	Mann County CoC	1,318	66	25	41	367	16	351	6	0	6	361	16	345
30	CA-508	Watsonville/Santa Cruz City & County CoC	1,954	151	38	113	270	21	249	28	0	28	242	21	221
31	CA-509	Mendocino County CoC	947	39	10	29	92	21	71	0	0	0	92	21	71
32	CA-510	Turlock/Modesto/Stanslaus County CoC	1,408	102	47	55	91	43	48	19	17	2	72	26	46
33	CA-511	Stockton/San Joaquin County CoC	1,708	144	83	61	42	29	13	1	1	0	41	28	13
34	CA-512	Daly/San Mateo County CoC	1,483	183	93	90	44	18	26	5	5	0	39	13	26
35	CA-513	Visalia, Kings, Tulare Counties CoC	862	51	11	40	66	42	24	1	1	0	65	41	24
36	CA-514	Fresno/Madera County CoC	1,722	227	87	140	136	44	92	3	3	0	133	41	92
37	CA-515	Roseville/Rocklin/Placer, Nevada Counties CoC	796	64	21	43	62	21	41	7	6	1	55	15	40
38	CA-516	Redding/Shasta, Siskiyou, Lassen, Plumas, Del Norte, Modoc, Sierra Counties CoC	591	87	39	48	21	8	13	0	0	0	21	8	13
39	CA-517	Napa City & County CoC	293	19	11	8	17	15	2	0	0	0	17	15	2
40	CA-518	Vallejo/Solano County CoC	1,082	89	24	65	120	12	108	9	0	9	111	12	99
41	CA-519	Chico/Paradise/Butte County CoC	571	50	23	27	57	21	36	0	0	0	57	21	36
42	CA-520	Merced City & County CoC	898	88	14	74	61	2	59	0	0	0	61	2	59
43	CA-521	Davis/Woodland/Yolo County CoC	498	44	28	16	45	14	31	3	0	3	42	14	28
44	CA-522	Humboldt County CoC	1,180	145	53	92	116	32	84	29	25	4	87	7	80
45	CA-523	Colusa, Glenn, Trinity Counties CoC	136	10	3	7	4	0	4	0	0	0	4	0	4

2015 2014 2013 2012 2011 2010 2009 2008 2007 CoC Mergers

Joshua

Other bookmarks

Tips and tricks for the meetings

BEFORE

- Know the level of support to expect before you go in
- Tailor talking points to audience: by interest *and* level of knowledge

DURING

- Highlight the local
- Emphasize results
- Be prepared to tell stories and humanize the data
- Make clear recommendations

AFTER

- “Leave behinds”
- Send a follow-up email and provide whatever materials or information you talked about in the meeting

Remember:

The very best thing that can happen is that you have to say:

“I don’t have an answer for that, but I know how to get it for you. I will send it along as soon as I do.”



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NCHV Advocacy Team:

- ➔ **Buttons and documents distribution**
- ➔ **Inaugural “Annual NCHV Advocacy Team Photo”!**

