

How to Act on Federal and State Legislation

FEDERAL ADVOCACY: MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD

The federal government plays a critical role in funding housing, healthcare, and social programs that impact millions of people. Here's what you need to know and how you can take action.

KEY FEDERAL LEGISLATION & IMPACT

Federal bills and budget decisions shape essential programs like:

- Housing & Homelessness Assistance
 - Emergency Housing Vouchers
 - Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)
 - Housing Choice Vouchers
- Social Safety Net Programs
 - SNAP (Food Stamps) – potential funding up to \$230 billion
 - Healthcare tax credits – \$800 billion or more
 - Benefits for immigrants
- Threats to Housing & Social Services
 - Potential funding cuts to safety net programs
 - Increased state match requirements
 - Drastic reductions in HUD and CPD staffing

Congress must reach a federal funding agreement by March 14. If an agreement isn't reached, a year-long Continuing Resolution (CR) could keep funding at current levels but without new investments for expanding services.

HOW TO TAKE ACTION ON FEDERAL ISSUES

1. Contact Your Senators

- Sen. Raphael Warnock
 - 717 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510
 - Phone: (202) 224-3643
- Sen. Jon Ossoff
 - 317 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510
 - Phone: (202) 224-3521

2. Stay Informed & Engage in Advocacy

- Sign up for National Alliance to End Homelessness (NAEH) Advocacy Alerts [Sign Up Here](#)

3. Call Congressional Offices & Demand Support

- Urge lawmakers to protect and expand funding for housing vouchers, Medicaid, and food assistance
 - Push back against attempts to criminalize homelessness
-

STATE-LEVEL ADVOCACY: URGENT ACTION NEEDED

HB 295 – CRIMINALIZING HOMELESSNESS

What It Does:

- Allows property owners to demand tax refunds if a city fails to criminalize homelessness.
- Enables lawsuits against cities/counties for not enforcing public camping, loitering, or panhandling laws.
- Weakens local government protections by waiving sovereign immunity and placing legal burden on cities.

Status:

- Passed out of the Public Safety and Homeland Security Committee along party lines.
- Now in the Rules Committee for review.

How to Take Action:

- ✓ Call & Email the House Rules Committee – particularly Republican members.
- ✓ Contact Rules Chair Butch Parrish if you have any connections.
- ✓ Push for Amendments to “De-Fang” the Bill to prevent criminalization efforts.
- ✓ Encourage Opposition from Local Government Associations (ACCG & GMA).

HB 183 – EVICTION WITHOUT DUE PROCESS FOR EXTENDED-STAY RESIDENTS

What It Does:

- Eliminates eviction protections for extended-stay hotel residents, overriding a Georgia Supreme Court ruling.
- Allows law enforcement to forcibly remove residents within 5 days with no legal process.
- More severe than existing laws for squatters, offering no notice or legal recourse.

Status:

- Tabled by the Committee unanimously.
- Only innkeepers organizations testified.
- Up to Chair whether and when to bring it back up

How to Take Action:

- Call & Email the Bill Sponsors and House Judiciary Committee Members – especially Republicans.
- Monitor progress of the bill and engage with legislators IF it comes back by the Chair