

February 12, 2016



The Honorable Kevin de Leon  
Senate President pro Tempore, 24<sup>th</sup> District  
State Capitol, Room 205  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: State Senate Homelessness Proposal

Dear Senate President De Leon,

Lourdes Juarez, Los Angeles, Los Angeles, UPEXT-Union de Poblanos En El Exterior is in full support of the California Senate proposal to increase affordable housing opportunities for the homeless, especially the chronically homeless with mental illness.

Homelessness is a tragedy witnessed daily throughout California where more homeless people live than anywhere else in the nation. Most, if not all, California communities have experienced the negative effects homelessness can have on businesses, government resources, community safety and wellbeing, neighborhood quality of life.

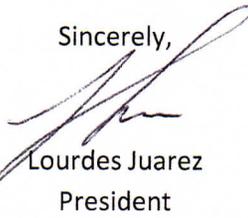
Increasing housing for the homeless is not only the compassionate thing to do but also fiscally prudent. The chronically homeless places the greatest strain on public resources in health, public safety, and social service costs.

The Senate proposal seeks to assist local governments fight homelessness with \$2 billion for permanent housing for those with mental illness and \$200 million over four years for temporary rent subsidies.

The Senate's effort to spur development of affordable housing, coupled with other elements in it's a proposal to support successful programs that prevent homelessness or shelter vulnerable families and individuals, will surely help our state better cope with the tragedy of homelessness.

For these reasons Lourdes Juarez, Los Angeles, Los Angeles, UPEXT-Union de Poblanos En El Exterior strongly supports the senate proposal on homelessness.

Sincerely,



Lourdes Juarez  
President

UPEXT- Union de Poblanos En El Exterior

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