AMENDMENT TO COMMITTEE PRINT 116-54
OFFERED BY MS. JAYAPAL OF WASHINGTON

Page 1714, after line 2, insert the following new section:

SEC. 60016. UNITED STATES INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS.

(a) REPEAL OF TERMINATION.—Title II of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11311 et seq.) is amended—

(1) by striking section 209 (42 U.S.C. 11319); and

(2) by redesignating sections 207 and 208 (42 U.S.C. 11317, 11318) as sections 208 and 209, respectively.

(b) FUNCTIONS.—Section 203 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11313) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (12), by striking “and” at the end;

(B) in paragraph (13), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and
(C) by adding at the end the following new paragraphs:

“(14) rely on evidence-based practices;

“(15) identify and promote successful practices, including the Housing First strategy and the permanent supportive housing model; and

“(16) prioritize addressing disparities faced by members of a population at higher risk of homelessness, including by issuing reports and making recommendations to agencies.”; and

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by inserting “and” after the semicolon;

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(3) make formal reports and recommendations to Federal agencies, which shall include comments on how proposed regulatory changes would impact persons experiencing homelessness, housing instability, or who are cost-burdened.”.

(e) ADVISORY BOARD.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Title II of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act is amended by in-
serting after section 206 (42 U.S.C. 11316) the fol-
lowing new section:

“SEC. 207. ADVISORY BOARD.

“(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established an advi-
sory board for the Council.

“(b) MEMBERSHIP.—

“(1) COMPOSITION.—The advisory board shall
be composed of not less than 20 individuals, selected
in accordance with paragraph (3) from nominees
proposed pursuant to paragraph (2), as follows:

“(A) Not less than 10 members shall be
individuals who are homeless or experiencing
housing instability, or were so during the 5 cal-
endar years preceding appointment to the advi-
sory board or who have been so in the last 5
calendar years.

“(B) Not less than 8 members shall be in-
dividuals who are members of, or advocate on
behalf of, or both, a population at higher risk
of homelessness, including such transgender
and gender non-conforming persons, Asian,
Black, Latino, Native American, Native Hawai-
ian, Pacific Islander, and other communities of
color, youth in or formerly in the foster care
system, and justice-system involved youth and adults.

“(2) NOMINATION.—Nominees for members of the advisory board shall be proposed by any grantee or subgrantee under this Act.

“(3) SELECTION.—Advisory Board members shall be selected as follows:

“(A) At least 5 members shall be selected by the majority party members of the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives and 5 members shall be selected by the minority party members of such committee.

“(B) At least 5 members shall be selected by the majority party members of the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate and 5 members shall be selected by the minority party members of such committee.

“(4) TERMS.—Members of the advisory board shall serve terms of 2 years.

“(c) FUNCTIONS.—The advisory board shall review the work of the Council, make recommendations regarding how the Council can most effectively pursue the goal of ending homelessness, and raise specific points of concern
with members of the Council who represent Federal agencies.

“(d) MEETINGS.—The advisory board shall meet not less often than twice each year.

“(e) COUNCIL MEETINGS.—The Council shall meet regularly and not less often than once a year with the advisory board and shall provide timely written responses to recommendations, proposals, and concerns issued by the advisory board.

“(f) CHAIRMAN.—The position of Chairman of the advisory board shall be filled by an individual who is a current or former member of the advisory board, is nominated by at least two members of the advisory board, and is confirmed by a vote of not less than 75 percent of the members of the advisory board.

“(g) COMPENSATION.—Any amounts made available for administrative costs of the Council may be used for costs of travel or online access to meetings for participation by members of the advisory board in board meetings, and for per diem compensation to advisory board members for board meetings.

“(h) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—The agencies implementing this Act shall construe this Act in a manner that facilitates and encourage the full participation of advisory board members and shall consider the barriers faced by
persons experiencing homelessness and shall endeavor to
overcome such barriers to participation.”.

(2) REPRESENTATION OF CHAIRMAN ON COUN-
CIL.—Section 202(a) of the McKinney-Vento Home-
less Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11312(a)) is amend-
ed—

(A) by redesignating paragraph (22) as
paragraph (21); and

(B) by adding at the end the following new
paragraph:

“(22) The chairman of the advisory board es-
tablished by section 207.”.

(d) DIRECTOR.— Subsection (a) of section 204 of the
McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C.
11314(a)) is amended—

(1) by striking ““(a) DIRECTOR.—The Council
shall appoint an Executive Director, who shall be”
and inserting the following:

“(a) DIRECTOR.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The chief executive officer
of the Council shall be the Executive Director, who
shall be appointed in accordance with paragraph (2)
and”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new
paragraph:
“(1) PROCESS FOR APPOINTMENT.—A vacancy in the position of Executive Director shall be filled by an individual nominated and appointed to such position by the Council, except that the Council may not appoint any nominee who is not confirmed by approval of 75 percent of the aggregate of all members of the Council and the advisory board under section 207 pursuant to an election in which each such member’s vote is given identical weight. If the Council is unable to agree on an Executive Director, the chairperson of the advisory council shall act as interim Executive Director.”.

(e) DEFINITIONS.—Section 207 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11317) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraphs:

“(3) The term ‘Housing First’ means, with respect to addressing homelessness, an approach to quickly and successfully connect individuals and families experiencing homelessness to permanent and affordable housing opportunities and appropriate services without preconditions and low or no barriers to entry, including barriers relating to sobriety, treatment, work requirements, and service participation requirements.
“(4) The term ‘permanent supportive housing’ means housing that provides—

“(A) indefinite leasing or rental assistance; and

“(B) non-mandatory, culturally competent supportive services to assist persons to achieve housing stability and maintain their health and well-being.

“(5)(A) The term ‘population at higher risk of homelessness’ means a group of persons that is defined by a common characteristic and that has been found to experience homelessness, housing instability, or to be cost-burdened at a rate higher than that of the general public.

“(B) Information that may be used in demonstrating such a higher rate includes data generated by the Federal Government, by State or municipal governments, by peer-reviewed research, and by organizations having expertise in working with or advocating on behalf of homeless, housing unstable, or cost-burdened groups.

“(C) Such term shall include populations for which such higher rate has already been demonstrated, including Asian, Black, Latino, Native American, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander and
other communities of color; persons with disabilities, including mental health disabilities, elderly persons, foster and former foster youth; LGBTQ persons, gender non-binary and gender non-conforming persons, justice system-involved persons, and veterans.”.

(f) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 101(b) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11301 note) is amended by striking the items relating to sections 209 and 210 and inserting the following:

“Sec. 209. Encouragement of State involvement.”.