



## National Lieutenant Governors Association

1 **A Resolution In Support Of Comprehensive, Coordinated Systems to End Homelessness Among**  
2 **Veterans**

3 **WHEREAS**, the Obama Administration enacted the Nation’s first ever comprehensive strategy to prevent  
4 and end homelessness, *Opening Doors*, which established the goal to prevent and end homelessness among  
5 Veterans in 2015.<sup>i</sup>

6 **WHEREAS**, since the implementation of *Opening Doors* in 2010, veteran homelessness has declined by 36  
7 percent.<sup>ii</sup>

8 **WHEREAS**, on a single night in January 2015, however, more than one in ten adults experiencing  
9 homelessness was a veteran, 47,725 veterans or 11 percent of 436,921 adults experiencing homelessness.  
10 Thirty-four percent of veterans experiencing homelessness were in unsheltered locations, compared with 28  
11 percent of all adults experiencing homelessness.<sup>iii</sup>

12 **WHEREAS**, a recent national study examined risk factors for homelessness among Veterans from the era of  
13 the Afghanistan (OEF) and Iraq (OIF/OND) conflicts. Veterans who were deployed as part of OEF/OIF  
14 had 34 percent higher rates of homelessness, compared to other Veterans who separated from the military at  
15 the same time.<sup>iv</sup>

16 **WHEREAS**, unique and robust programs and supports are available for Veterans experiencing or at risk of  
17 experiencing homelessness. Through coordinated efforts at the state- and local-level, Veterans experiencing  
18 homelessness can be quickly identified, and connected to permanent housing and necessary supports that  
19 promote housing stability – proven solutions to homelessness.<sup>v</sup>

20 **WHEREAS**, in 2014, the First Lady announced a challenge to end veteran homelessness in order to solidify  
21 partnerships and secure commitments from state- and local- elected officials and leaders across the country.<sup>vi</sup>

22 **WHEREAS**, nine governors and 689 mayors have committed to ending Veteran homelessness in their  
23 communities.<sup>vii</sup> Twenty-one communities have announced an end to Veteran homelessness, including Mobile,  
24 Alabama. Connecticut Governor Dannel P. Malloy and Virginia Governor Terry McAuliffe have also both  
25 announced their success in achieving this goal.

26 **THEREFORE, Be it Resolved**, that the NLGA supports state’s commitments to end homelessness among  
27 veterans.

28 **Be it Further Resolved** that the NLGA supports policies and programs that ensure access to stable housing  
29 and quality services for veterans experiencing homelessness.

30 **Be it Further Resolved** that the NLGA supports implementation of comprehensive and coordinated  
31 systems to end homelessness among veterans.

32 **Be it Finally Resolved**, the NLGA will be an engaged forum for the sharing of best practices among states  
33 to ensure the establishment of effective comprehensive and coordinated systems to end veteran  
34 homelessness.



## National Lieutenant Governors Association

**Primary Sponsors:** Lt. Governor Nancy Wyman, CT; Lt. Governor Kay Ivey, AL; Additional Co-Sponsors: Lt. Governor Phil Scott, VT; Lt. Governor Rebecca Kleefisch, WI; Lt. Governor Kim Reynolds, IA; Lt. Governor Billy Nungesser, LA; Lt. Gov. Matt Michels, SD; Lt. Gov. John Sanchez, NM; Lt. Gov. Osbert Potter, USVI; Lt. Gov. Eric Holcomb, IN

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<sup>i</sup> [https://www.usich.gov/resources/uploads/asset\\_library/USICH\\_OpeningDoors\\_Amendment2015\\_FINAL.pdf](https://www.usich.gov/resources/uploads/asset_library/USICH_OpeningDoors_Amendment2015_FINAL.pdf)

<sup>ii</sup> <https://www.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/2015-AHAR-Part-1.pdf>

<sup>iii</sup> <https://www.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/2015-AHAR-Part-1.pdf>

<sup>iv</sup> U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Office of the Inspector General. 2012. Homeless Incidence and Risk Factors for Becoming Homeless in Veterans, Report No. 11-03428-173. Available at <http://www.va.gov/oig/pubs/VAOIG-11-03428-173.pdf>.

<sup>v</sup> Byrne, Thomas, et al. 2014. "The Relationship between Community Investment in Permanent Supportive Housing and Chronic Homelessness." *Social Service Review* 88.2: 234-263.

<sup>vi</sup> <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2014/06/04/fact-sheet-mayors-challenge-end-veteran-homelessness>

<sup>vii</sup> [http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program\\_offices/comm\\_planning/veteran\\_information/mayors\\_challenge/mayors\\_and\\_staff](http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/comm_planning/veteran_information/mayors_challenge/mayors_and_staff)