



Michigan Coalition Against Homelessness Legislative Action Committee

Monday, October 23 2017
12:00-1:00 p.m.

- I. Homeless Awareness Week Sleepout
 1. Homeless Awareness Week is Nov 11-19. Great opportunity to engage with elected officials and other stakeholders in your community
 2. MCAH and Lansing area partners are hosting 2017 Michigan Homelessness Sleep Out event. Intended audience are elected officials (national, state, local) and media as well as other stakeholders who interact with homeless population but may not be part of CoC or fully informed.
 3. Event will provide information/resources and experience of one night without a home. Schedule is available [online](#).
- II. Policy Priorities 2017-2018
 1. State ID update
 - I. Sign on to the letter requesting a meeting with the SoS at: bit.ly/IDSignOn
 2. Decriminalization update
 - I. 3 pilot communities are doing client questionnaire. Will analyze results, make changes, and roll out statewide early 2018
 - II. Next call is Nov 10 at 10am
 3. Affordable Housing – call for chairs
 - I. Lots of interest but need additional help in organizing committee. If you are interested in chairing the committee and helping plan the next meeting, contact Laurel // lburchfield@mihomeless.org
- III. State Updates
 1. [HB 4719](#): Landlord-Tenant Act: Control of Bedbugs
 - I. Bad bill for tenants. Would allow landlords to hold tenants financially responsible for treatment costs, but the science behind bedbugs doesn't really allow for evidence of responsibility and the language of the bill doesn't protect tenants from landlord negligence.
 - II. MCAH is opposing and encourages you to contact the Chair (Rep Kesto // (517) 373-1799, KlintKesto@house.mi.gov) of the Law and Justice Committee to oppose.
 - III. **UPDATE AFTER THE CALL**: HB4719 is not on the agenda to be taken up in committee this week, but you can still email and call to oppose
 2. [HB 4686 & 4687](#) – Allows local unit to limit rent for senior and disabled; provides tax exemption

- I. Rent control bills that limits rent for seniors and individuals with disabilities at 50% of household income.
 - II. Referred to Committee on local government, but a hearing is not scheduled and Rep. Chang's office doesn't see that it will move. Instead, partnering with Rep. Peterson to address affordable housing for seniors through additional legislative package. MCAH will keep you updated
 - 3. Rep. Brann Landlord Incentivization bill – coming soon
 - I. Unclear on bill language and what incentivization will look like, but MCAH continues to meet with Rep. Brann's office to discuss and will notify you about any updates
- IV. Federal Updates
 - 1. Budget timeline
 - I. House and Senate approved THUD budgets over summer that are better than administration's proposed budget. Senate bill is more in line with our priorities, but still need an increase in vouchers.
 - II. Senate Budget Resolution passed that sets roadmap for next 10 year budgets and opens path for tax reform.
 - I. Tax reform framework does include LIHTC, but may have impacts on development through corporate tax
 - II. Concerns about cuts to Medicaid, TANF, SNAP and other low income programs. Stay vigilant and take action when possible.
 - 2. [HR 1661](#) and [S 548](#) – Affordable Housing incentives and LIHTC expansion
 - I. [NLIHC factsheet](#)
 - I. NLIHC is doing great work in DC coordinating efforts to educate MoC through forums and other opportunities. Getting a lot of hits in the media
 - II. Rep Walberg is only MI co-sponsor
 - I. These are great opportunities for MI MoC to attach their names as co-sponsors to good legislation. Co-sponsor list is growing quickly.
 - 3. [HR 948](#) – Common Sense Housing Investment Act. MID Reform.
 - I. [UFH Factsheet](#)
 - I. Sign up to the UFH campaign and follow NLIHC on social media to get alerts about action to take
 - II. Rep Conyers is only MI co-sponsor
- V. Calls to Action (if any)
 - 1. HAW – invite your elected official and media to participate
 - I. Invite has gone out with three leg attending: Rep Brann, Rep Cochran, and Sen Hertel. We need your help inviting your elected officials and members of the media! Information is available on [MCAH website](#)
 - I. All elected officials are invited – no prioritization of leadership. Staff are also invited
 - II. Rep Cochran is introducing a House Resolution for Homeless Awareness Week and challenging his colleagues to participate in the sleep out on Nov 2 at noon. Anyone who is interested can attend session and be recognized from the floor in the gallery. If interested, contact Laurel // lburchfield@mihomeless.org.
 - 2. Budget – call your MoC and encourage alignment with the Senate THUD budget, increase in vouchers
 - 3. Fed Legislation - Call your MoC and encourage them to co-sponsor HR 1661, S 548 and HR 948
- VI. Additional MCAH Updates
 - 1. Advocacy Day planning committee

- I. Advocacy Day will happen in the spring. MCAH needs input on improvements to materials for legislators and developing talking points. If interested, contact Laurel // lburchfield@mihomeless.org
 2. In person meeting and Legislative Blitz, Nov 29 in Lansing
 - I. [Register online](#)
 - II. MCAH will provide talking points and organize drop offs of the 2016 data report to state legislative office. Looking for volunteers!
- VII. Advocacy Updates from the Field
 1. None
- VIII. Next meeting: Nov 29