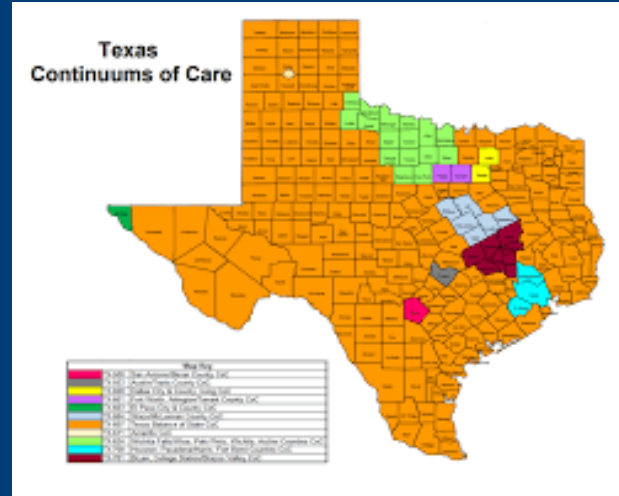


From Sessions to Solutions: Workshop on Homeless Advocacy in Texas



Agenda



Setting the Stage:
The 88th Legislative
Session



Navigating
Roadblocks:
Legislative Hurdles
Faced



What Lies Ahead: The
Road Beyond the
88th Session



Setting the Stage



01

STRENGTHEN HOMELESS
RESPONSE SYSTEMS

02

EXPAND AFFORDABLE, ACCESSIBLE
HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES

03

TARGETED, INTERSECTIONAL
ASSISTANCE



PRIORITIES



Strengthen Homeless Response Systems

Homeless Crisis Response Systems, or Continuums of Care, prevent and end homelessness through the strategic development of systems based on data-driven solutions.

These systems can quickly and efficiently use funding to prevent or divert households from homelessness. Our priorities for strengthening homeless crisis response systems are:



Strengthen Homeless Response Systems



HB 1917 (Walle) –Texas Tenant Readiness and Landlord Incentive Program –Relating to the establishment and implementation by the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs of the Texas Tenant Readiness and Landlord Incentive Pilot Program.

HB 2533 (Walle) – Texas Homeless Data Sharing Network (THDSN) Expansion – Relating to the implementation of a statewide homeless data sharing network to share real-time data on homelessness.

SB 1 & HB 1 – Relating to the continuation and expansion of existing funding to the Homeless Housing and Service Program (HHSP). This funding was not increased.



Expand Affordable, Accessible Housing Opportunities

Ending homelessness requires housing. Texas must support the development and rehabilitation of more affordable and supportive housing to alleviate and end homelessness.




Expand Affordable, Accessible Housing Opportunities



Advocacy on use of remaining ARPA funding: THN and our colleagues support a proposal to provide \$750M to replenish the Texas Rent Relief program, \$750M for the Development and Preservation of Deeply Affordable Attainable Housing Grant Fund, and \$100M Down Payment Assistance Grant Fund. Notes: Advocacy failed to gain traction and ARPA funding was not extended for these uses.

HB 3632 (Goodwin)/SB 1733 (Johnson) –Relating to the establishment of a housing assistance pilot program to assist certain students enrolled in public junior colleges. Notes: Referred to Higher Education.

HB 2996 (Zwiener) – Relating to the applicability of prohibitions on municipal or county regulations on the rental or leasing of housing accommodations. Notes: Heard in Urban Affairs but left pending in committee.



Targeted intersectional assistance

Recognizing and acting on the disparities particularly affecting people experiencing homelessness/housing insecure folks who are also people of color, LGBTQIA+, immigrants, people with criminal histories, and/or people with disabilities and mental illness.



Targeted intersectional assistance



HB 673 (Collier) – Relating to notice and opportunity to cure that must be given before filing an eviction suit.

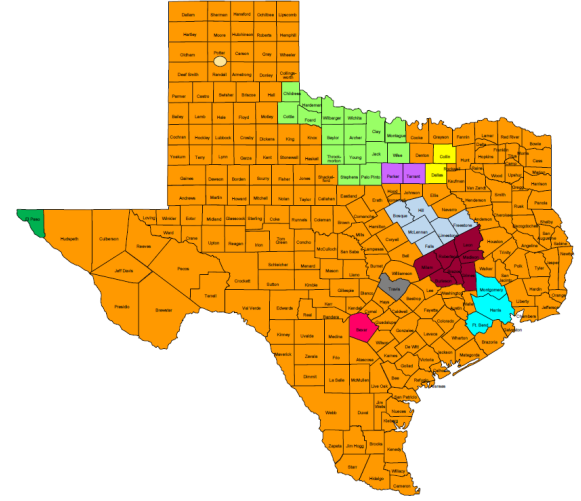
HB 3838 (Zwiener) – Relating to trauma-informed care training for certain state employees developed by the Health

SB 202 (Eckhardt) – Relating to prohibiting an increase in the rent before the end of a lease term of a tenant residing in a development supported with a low-income housing tax credit allocation.

HB 1677 (Jetton | Reynold | Collier) – Relating to the issuance of a certified birth record, driver's license, or personal identification certificate to a homeless individual.



Navigating Roadblocks: Legislative Hurdles Faced



Legislation that would hinder efforts to end homelessness

This section was added to educate policymakers and advocates on bills that contain proposed actions that, in THN's opinion, limit opportunities for communities to address homelessness effectively.



Legislation that would hinder efforts to end homelessness

HB 4240 (Harrison)/SB 1803 (Springer) – Relating to the effectiveness of state-funded homelessness programs at helping beneficiaries advance toward self-sufficiency.



HB 4242 (Harrison)/SB 1804 (Springer) - Relating to standardizing definitions of homelessness

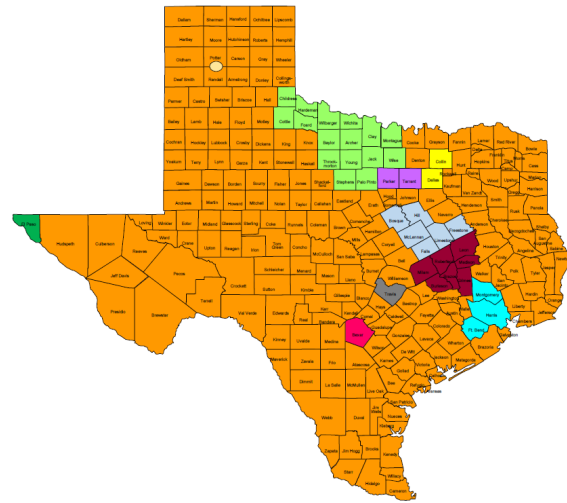
HB 4939 (Hefner)/SB 2018 (Flores) - Relating to the prohibitions on camping in a public place

SB 1214 (Schwertner) – Relating to hearing and public notice requirements regarding the conversion by a municipality of certain properties to house homeless individuals.

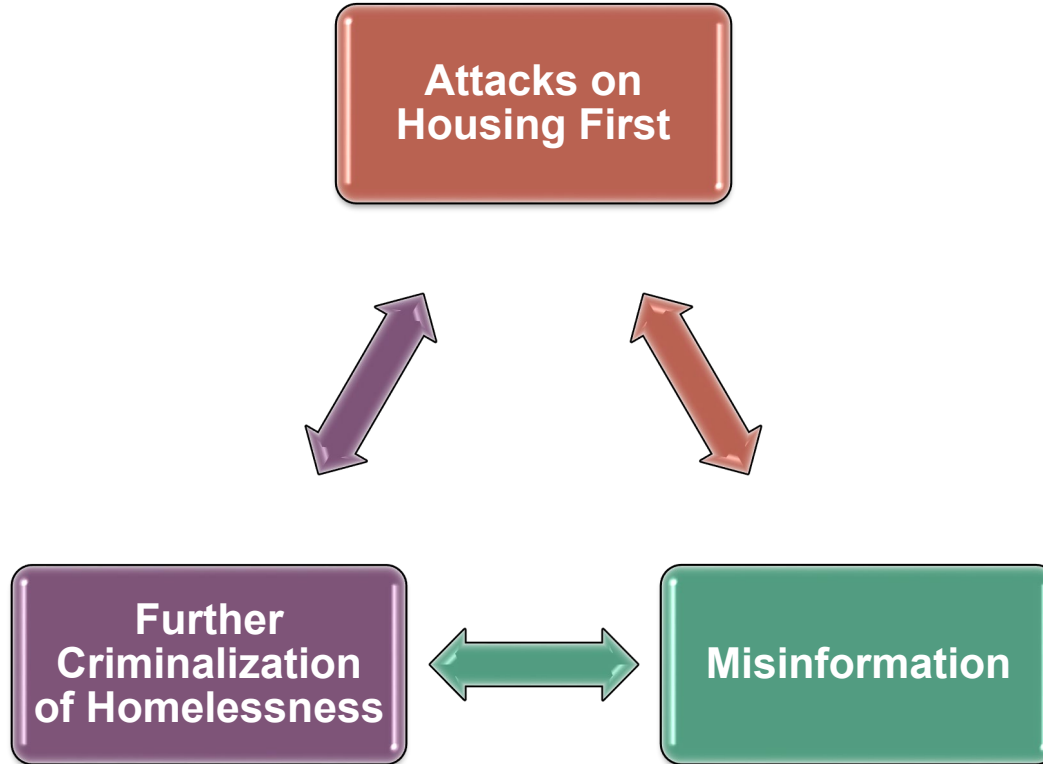
SB 2529 (Parker) - Relating to the provision of homeless services in Texas



What Lies Ahead: The Road Beyond the 88th Session



What to Expect



Opposition Groups

The Texas Public Policy Foundation

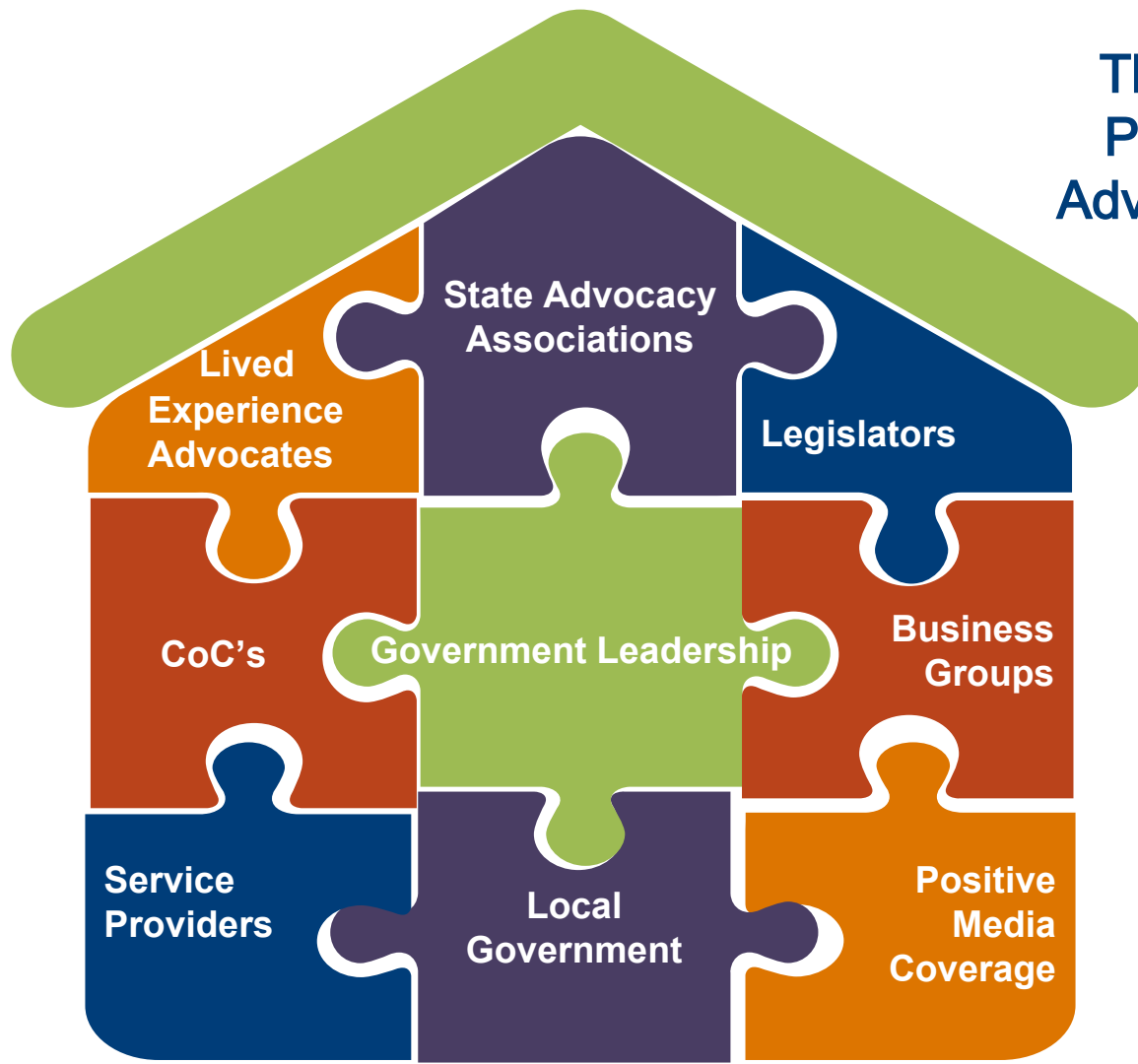
- **HB 4242/SB 1804**
 - Strengthening homeless families through expanding the definition of homelessness
- **HB 4240/SB 1803**
 - Homeless services audit for client self sufficiency

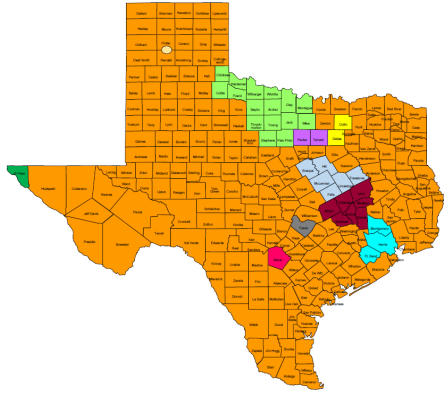
The Cicero Institute

- **HB 4939/SB 2018**
 - Expansion of the camping ban with the use legislation that was passed in Missouri, Tennessee, and Georgia



The Essential Pieces of the Advocacy Puzzle





Q&A

