

Fighting Homelessness

Since he was elected to the House of Representatives, Congressman Lieu has acted with urgency to confront the homelessness and housing crises, having authored and co-authored multiple pieces of legislation on this critical issue with several provisions signed into law.

Stopping Veteran Homelessness and Supporting our Heroes

As a veteran, Congressman Lieu understands the importance of <u>tackling veteran homelessness</u>. One of his top priorities in Congress has been to provide his fellow veterans with the care and support they have earned and deserve. Congressman Lieu helped usher through a Master Plan to revitalize the West LA VA and better serve our veterans. With a broadly-supported plan in place, Senator Feinstein and Congressman Lieu passed legislation to authorize the VA to enter into public-private agreements to develop nearly 2,000 units of permanent supportive and temporary housing for homeless veterans.

Congressman Lieu and Senator Feinstein also <u>passed legislation</u> to ensure that lease revenue generated at the West LA VA campus go directly toward housing and other services for veterans, which was signed into law by President Biden in 2021. In 2022, the Members introduced a measure to allow funds specifically generated by easements at the campus to go toward supportive housing for veterans, which was also <u>signed into law</u> as part of the annual defense authorization bill.

Congressman Lieu cosponsored the PACT Act, a comprehensive new law that provides more than \$350 million for housing developments at the West LA VA.

Thanks in part to Congressman Lieu and Senator Feinstein's efforts, the West LA VA campus now has more than 200 supportive housing units for homeless and at-risk veterans after the openings of Buildings 205, 208 and 207, and plans for the development of additional units to open in 2024 and 2025.



Rep. Lieu participates in ribbon cutting ceremony for new affordable housing units at the West LA VA

Congressman Lieu joined with the House and Senate Veterans Affairs Committees to spearhead the SAVE Act or the *Supporting At Risk Veterans in Emergencies Act*, to make sure VA has the authority it needs to procure and distribute food aid. The SAVE Act became law as part of a package of several other pro-veteran bills.

Compassionately Addressing Homelessness in CA-36 and Beyond

Congressman Lieu believes addressing homelessness is a moral imperative and our approach should always be compassionate and holistic. He introduced the Fighting Homelessness Through Services and Housing Act, which seeks to address the root causes of homelessness by authorizing \$1 billion annually for five years to fund supportive housing models that provide comprehensive services for those in need. Congressman Lieu also introduced the Prevent Evictions Act, which creates a grant program for state, local governments, tribal governments, and other public or nonprofit entities to establish or administer landlord-tenant mediation programs in which tenants may participate at no cost. In addition, Congressman Lieu's Prevent Homelessness Act would establish a \$500 million Housing Stabilization Fund to help Americans most at-risk of homelessness. Further, he has introduced the Housing for All Act, which would

invest nearly \$532 billion over ten years to address the affordable housing shortage and homelessness crisis.

Supporting Local Homelessness Response Efforts

In Fiscal Years 2022 and 2023, Congressman Lieu secured over \$13.5 million in federal funding for various homelessness projects in Los Angeles County. These include a mobile crisis response pilot program in Hermosa Beach, a behavioral health center in Santa Monica, a workforce reentry program at St. Joseph Center, a temporary housing program in Torrance, and more. Congressman Lieu believes securing federal resources to support local organizations directly involved in the community is critical to reducing homelessness, while also supporting robust funding for general housing programs through the overall government appropriations process each year.



Rep. Lieu presents check to St. Joseph's Center in Venice