ALEX PADILLA

U.S. SENATOR for CALIFORNIA

End Veterans Homelessness Act

Veterans who have bravely served and sacrificed for our country deserve to have a roof over their heads. Yet, on any given night in America, nearly 32,500 veterans experience homelessness. This is an unacceptable reality that demands action.

To address this need, Congress created the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development-VA Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) Program, to distribute vouchers to veterans, prioritizing those with chronic mental illnesses or substance use disorders. **As of July 2026, Congress has funded nearly 116,000 HUD-VASH vouchers, but about 20,900 of these vouchers are not being utilized.**

The *End Veterans Homelessness Act* would increase HUD-VASH voucher utilization by enhancing the efficiency of the HUD-VASH program, broadening program eligibility, and increasing oversight.

While continuing to prioritize veterans with the greatest needs, this bill would reduce bureaucratic red tape, limit casework bottlenecks, and expand eligibilities and flexibilities.

By modernizing this vital program, we can help ensure that no veteran is left without housing—an essential step in honoring their service to our nation.

More specifically, this bill would:

- Broaden HUD-VASH eligibility to include veterans and their families who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness and veterans who do not require intensive supportive services (*and are currently ineligible for the program*), while preserving priority for chronically homeless veterans and veterans with chronic disabilities.
- Allow veterans currently receiving housing assistance through other programs to transfer into HUD-VASH, freeing up limited housing subsidies for non-veterans in need.
- Adopt effective Emergency Housing Voucher program flexibilities and allow public housing authorities to use administrative fees to streamline the process.
- Increase transparency and oversight by directing HUD to provide Congress with an annual report on voucher utilization and barriers to access, and by requiring a Government Accountability Office review of HUD-VASH and veteran housing stability across federal programs.