



H.2245/ S.725, AN ACT RELATIVE TO INTERAGENCY EFFORTS TO REDUCE AND PREVENT HOMELESSNESS

Sponsored by Rep. Byron Rushing & Sen. Linda Dorcena Forry.

This legislation creates a Memorandum of Understanding among different state agencies for coordinating efforts to address homelessness.

PATCHWORK SYSTEM OF PROGRAMS

- Families find it difficult to access assistance and navigate across multiple state agencies use varying definitions of homelessness and eligibility criteria.
- These families also face cliff effects when benefits are cut-off or reduced as their income increases.

NEED FOR DATA SHARING AND COORDINATION OF EFFORTS BETWEEN STATE AGENCIES

- This bill creates a Memorandum of Understanding among the Secretaries of Housing and Economic Development, Health and Human Services, Labor and Workforce Development, Education, and Administration and Finance to direct these agencies to work together in coordinating services and resources for households that are facing economic instability and homelessness.

POLICY CHANGE DRIVEN BY CURRENT DATA IS THE WAY FORWARD

- This bill facilitates the collection of data from housing and homelessness prevention programs to evaluate resources for families with low incomes, gaps in program eligibility, and caseloads of the state agencies.
- Identifying ways to reduce barriers to programs across agencies and improve collaboration will promote systems change efforts that are necessary for improving housing stability.

SYSTEMS COORDINATION AND EFFICIENCY



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