CALL TO ACTION FOR STATE LEADERS

Use This Federal Shift to Reform Homelessness Policy at the State Level

President Trump's Executive Order has cleared the way for meaningful reform. States are no longer bound by failed federal mandates. Now is the time to act.

Enforce Encampment Bans

Pass or strengthen laws that prohibit public camping—especially near schools, parks, and transit corridors. The EO gives political and legal cover to clear encampments without risking federal penalties or litigation threats.

- Prioritize Treatment-First Shelter Models

 Shift state and local funding toward programs that require addiction treatment, mental health recovery, or work participation as a condition of shelter access. Stop subsidizing providers that resist accountability.
- Increase Oversight of Service Providers

 Audit homelessness-related spending and contracts. Cut ties with nonprofits that refuse to measure outcomes or fight enforcement efforts. Require providers to track job placements, participation in work-readiness programs, and reductions in repeat service use. If they aren't helping people exit homelessness, they shouldn't be funded.
- Pass Legislative Reforms Now

Consider model policies that align with the EO:

- Public camping bans
- Conditional shelter access tied to treatment or employment
- Sex offender screening and registration requirements
- Expansion of involuntary treatment authority when appropriate
- Promote Transparency and Public Reporting

Require agencies to publish data on program outcomes, overdose incidents, and housing exits. Increase public visibility into where money is going and what results are being delivered.

THE BOTTOM LINE:

Washington has finally removed the ideological roadblocks. It's up to state leaders to follow through. Use this momentum to fix what's broken—before more communities pay the price.

Contact Cicero Action about advancing legislation, refining policy proposals, or messaging initiatives in your state.

