



## Cal Cities Action Alert

### Support AB 1708 (Solache) HHAP Pathways for Cities Act

**Action Requested:** Submit a letter of **support** for AB 1708 (Solache), a Cal Cities-sponsored bill that provides a consistent pathway for all cities to access state homelessness funding. AB 1708 is awaiting a committee assignment and will be heard this spring.

**What the Bill Does:** AB 1708 creates a new opportunity for all cities to access the state's flagship homelessness grant program, the Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention (HHAP) Grant program.

#### **Why AB 1708 is Important to Cal Cities Members:**

- Currently, there is no requirement that small and medium-sized cities be considered for HHAP funds, even as many invest significant General Fund resources to address homelessness.
- Local governments are best positioned to identify the programs and partnerships that will have the greatest impact in their communities.
- AB 1708 would establish a clearly defined opportunity for cities to compete for state resources and ensure that communities of all sizes have a meaningful role in the state's homelessness response efforts.
- Expanding access to HHAP would bolster local efforts and enable even more people to access services and affordable housing in communities across California.

**Additional Background:** Since 2019, the HHAP program has provided direct and flexible funding to cities with populations over 300,000, all 58 counties, and the 44 Continuums of Care (CoC) across California. The other 469 California cities with populations under 300,000 do not currently have a guaranteed or consistent pathway to access these critical funds.

AB 1708 would require CoCs to accept applications from eligible small and medium-sized cities that meet clear accountability requirements before allocating funding to other subrecipients in the region.

**Links and Attachments:** Cal Cities support [letter](#). Sample city support [letter](#).

**Where to Send Letter:** See sample letter for legislative portal link. Send copy to [cityletters@calcities.org](mailto:cityletters@calcities.org), and RPAM email.

**Questions?** Laura Varela [Lvarela@calcities.org](mailto:Lvarela@calcities.org) or Caroline Grinder, [cgrinder@calcities.org](mailto:cgrinder@calcities.org)