

1           A RESOLUTION expressing concern about federal regulatory overreach that  
2 adversely affects the housing industry.

3           WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Kentucky is committed to addressing  
4 homelessness and housing insecurity by ensuring that housing policies and programs  
5 uphold accountability and are tailored to the unique needs of local communities; and

6           WHEREAS, the federal government has limited the flexibility of states and local  
7 governments to adopt community-specific solutions to homelessness and housing  
8 insecurity by imposing complex compliance measures through its Continuum of Care  
9 Program interim rule; and

10           WHEREAS, excessive federal regulations on homebuilders, landlords, and housing  
11 providers increase construction costs, reduce housing supply, and make homeownership  
12 and rental housing less affordable for Kentuckians; and

13           WHEREAS, the federally mandated Homeless Management Information System  
14 rule places an undue administrative burden on state and local agencies that reduces the  
15 ability for state and local agencies to focus on direct services to the community due to the  
16 substantial data collection and reporting requirements; and

17           WHEREAS, the federal requirements under the United States Department of  
18 Housing and Urban Development's performance standards and measures have  
19 incentivized a one-size-fits-all approach that may not accurately reflect the unique  
20 challenges faced by diverse communities or promote innovative, community-based  
21 approaches to reducing homelessness; and

22           WHEREAS, federal policy mandates have limited the ability of local service  
23 providers to offer a range of housing and service options, which curbs flexibility and  
24 hinders efforts to support clients with varying levels of need and readiness for permanent  
25 housing; and

26           WHEREAS, current federal standards under the Emergency Solutions Grants  
27 Program restrict local agencies from utilizing resources effectively, often leading to

1 misalignment with community-specific priorities and reducing the impact of services  
2 provided to the Commonwealth's most vulnerable populations; and

3 WHEREAS, the 2009 amendments to the McKinney-Vento Act have resulted in a  
4 proliferation of federal mandates that limit the Commonwealth's ability to adapt its  
5 approach to the needs of diverse populations experiencing homelessness; and

6 WHEREAS, permanent supportive housing, while essential for many individuals,  
7 should not be the sole or primary solution for all experiencing homelessness, and  
8 excessive reliance on federal permanent supportive housing standards has constrained the  
9 Commonwealth's capacity to develop diverse housing solutions and funding structures;  
10 and

11 WHEREAS, block grant funding would allow the Commonwealth to better  
12 leverage United States Department of Housing and Urban Development assistance by  
13 granting the state more discretion over the allocation of funds, enabling local agencies to  
14 design programs tailored to the specific needs of Kentucky's homeless and housing  
15 insecure populations;

16 NOW, THEREFORE,

17 *Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the*  
18 *Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

19 ➔Section 1. This honorable body urges the United States Department of Housing  
20 and Urban Development to:

21 (1) Repeal the Continuum of Care interim rule to provide more flexibility for  
22 state and local governments to design housing solutions that are responsive to local  
23 conditions;

24 (2) Amend the Homeless Management Information System rule to streamline  
25 reporting requirements, reduce administrative burdens, and allow providers to direct more  
26 resources toward client service;

27 (3) Eliminate performance standards and measures, allowing local governments

1 and agencies the freedom to set performance indicators that more accurately reflect  
2 community needs and goals:

3 (4) Rescind housing first policy mandates to permit flexibility for communities to  
4 offer a variety of housing options that meet the diverse needs and preferences of  
5 individuals and families experiencing homelessness; and

6 (5) Reduce federal standards in the Emergency Solutions Grants Program to  
7 better align with local priorities, ensuring resources are effectively allocated to maximize  
8 community impact.

9 ➔Section 2. This honorable body urges the United States Congress to advance  
10 legislation to:

11 (1) Repeal the 2009 amendments to the McKinney-Vento Act to decrease  
12 restrictive federal mandates and increase state autonomy in addressing homelessness;

13 (2) Reduce the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development's  
14 role in permanent supportive housing programs to allow local agencies more freedom in  
15 implementing supportive housing options tailored to their specific populations; and

16 (3) Shift United States Department of Housing and Urban Development funding  
17 to block grants rather than direct assistance to enable states to have greater flexibility in  
18 allocating funds to areas of greatest need, allowing for a more effective response to  
19 homelessness in the Commonwealth.

20 ➔Section 3. The Clerk of the House of Representatives is directed to transmit  
21 copies of this resolution to the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the  
22 United States Interagency Council on Homelessness, and each member of Kentucky's  
23 Congressional delegation.