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Waters Amendment #1 to the Views and Estimates of the Committee on Financial Services on Matters to be Set Forth in the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2018

Offered by Ms. Waters of California

On page 11 line 32 insert the following:

HUD'S HOMELESS ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

The Committee believes that it should be a priority to end homelessness in this country, which starts with support for full funding for HUD's McKinney Vento Homeless Assistance Grants program. The U.S. has made significant and measurable progress since 2010: overall homelessness has declined nationwide by 14 percent, homelessness among veterans has fallen by 48 percent, chronic homelessness among individuals has fallen by 27 percent, and homelessness among people in families with children has fallen by 19 percent.

However, according to HUD's most recent point-in-time count, there were still 549,928 people experiencing homelessness on any given night in January 2016. Sadly, over one-fifth of people experiencing homelessness are children and nearly 7 percent are veterans. The Committee will no longer ignore the needs of the homeless, and instead will convene hearings on the topic and will consider proposals that provide real solutions that end homelessness in America.

The Committee fully supports the goals of ending homelessness in America set forth in the *Opening Doors* strategy, the first-ever Federal strategic plan to prevent and end homelessness, and recognize that increased funding is necessary to achieve those goals, in addition to effective partnerships across all sectors and the effective targeting of funds. To that end, the Committee will consider proposals such as the *The Ending Homelessness Act* (H.R. 4888 of the 114th Congress), which provides an additional \$13.27 billion in mandatory funding over five years to several different Federal programs and initiatives. All in all, this proposal is estimated to provide 410,000 units of housing to effectively end homelessness in this country.