FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 28, 2018

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Applications for $500 Million in Emergency Homeless Funding Received From All Eligible Cities, Continuums of Care

SACRAMENTO – California's Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council has received applications from all 43 Continuums of Care (CoCs) and 11 large cities eligible for Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP) funding. As a result, all applicants are on track to receive the maximum amount of funding to which they are entitled, and all $500 million will be awarded by the end of January 2019.

HEAP is a $500 million block grant program that provides funding for CoCs and California's 11 largest cities to help them give immediate assistance to people who are homeless or at imminent risk of homelessness. The only requirements are that the money must be used to address homelessness, that each city or county declares a shelter crisis in order to receive money and that five percent of all grants must be used for emergency assistance for homeless youth.

"I am delighted that all the entities eligible for funding have submitted their applications before the end of the year," said Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency Secretary Alexis Podesta, who also chairs the Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council. "The Council has committed to awarding funds within 60 days of receiving a complete application, which means everyone will have their money in hand quickly and can begin using it immediately to address homelessness."

Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. signed the legislation that created HEAP, SB 850, which took effect July 1. It provides $350 million to CoCs, based on their homeless population. Another $150 million was set aside for California's 11 largest cities, with the amount of funding determined by their homeless population.

So far, 33 of 54 jurisdictions have been awarded grants totaling more than $365 million, or 73 percent of the total available funding.

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