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AJR-9 Housing and homelessness. (2023-2024)

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Assembly Joint Resolution No. 9

CHAPTER 178

Relative to housing.

[Filed with Secretary of State August 23, 2024.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AJR 9, McKinnor. Housing and homelessness.

This measure would request the Congress of the United States to pass, and the President to sign, the Housing Crisis Response Act of 2023 (H.R. 4233), the Ending Homelessness Act of 2023 (H.R. 4232), and the Downpayment Toward Equity Act of 2023 (H.R. 4231).

Fiscal Committee: yes

WHEREAS, The nation's housing and homelessness crisis requires urgent and immediate action by all levels of government; and

WHEREAS, Households are increasingly unable to keep up with rising housing costs, leading to an increased risk of evictions and foreclosures, which could result in homelessness; and

WHEREAS, There is a nationwide shortage of nearly 14,000,000 housing units for rent and purchase; and

WHEREAS, Californians need a sustained commitment to preserve and expand affordable and accessible housing; and

WHEREAS, One hundred fifty billion dollars in federal investments to support public housing, affordable and accessible housing, and equitable community development is needed to increase the housing supply, decrease housing costs, and create jobs across the country; and

WHEREAS, The number of people experiencing homelessness in the United States has increased since the last prepandemic count in 2020, particularly among people experiencing unsheltered homelessness; and

WHEREAS, People of color have been particularly hard hit by this crisis and continue to experience disproportionate rates of housing instability and homelessness; and

WHEREAS, Ten billion dollars in federal investment is needed to fund the creation of permanent affordable housing, outreach, and case management to connect persons experiencing homelessness to needed services, and technical assistance to help states and local jurisdictions better align their health care and housing strategies; and

WHEREAS, Home ownership has been a primary driver of household wealth, with homeowners holding over 40 times the median net worth of renters as of 2019; and

WHEREAS, Creditworthy borrowers who lack intergenerational wealth are often left behind, with the share of first-time homebuyers reaching an all-time low of 26 percent; and

WHEREAS, One hundred billion dollars in federal investment is needed to help close the United States' racial wealth and home ownership gap by addressing downpayments, closing costs, and mortgage interest rates; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly and the Senate of the State of California, jointly, That the Legislature requests that the Congress of the United States pass the Housing Crisis Response Act of 2023 (H.R. 4233), the Ending Homelessness Act of 2023 (H.R. 4232), and the Downpayment Toward Equity Act of 2023 (H.R. 4231), and further requests that President Joseph Biden sign those acts into law; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the President and the Vice President of the United States, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to the Majority Leader of the Senate, to each Senator and Representative from California in the Congress of the United States, and to the author for appropriate distribution.