

ALEX PADILLA

U.S. SENATOR  CALIFORNIA

Housing for All Act of 2022

There is a shortage of 6.8 million affordable rental homes in the U.S., and the share of Americans who say finding affordable housing is a “major problem” in their community is up 10 percent since 2018, outpacing worries about crime, drug addiction, and the economic and health impacts of COVID-19. Prior to the pandemic, one in four renters spent half of their monthly income on rent, nearly one million tenants were evicted each year, and more than 580,000 individuals were experiencing homelessness nationwide. The ongoing effects of the pandemic threaten to further exacerbate these crises, which disproportionately impact low-income people and people of color.

The “Housing for All Act of 2022” would invest in proven solutions to housing shortages, fund programs that have been proven to reduce homelessness, and strengthen innovative, locally-developed programs to appropriately engage with those experiencing homelessness. Specifically, this bill would:

- Address the **affordable housing shortage** by investing in the National Housing Trust Fund, the Section 202 Supportive Housing for the Elderly Program, the Section 811 Supportive Housing for People with Disabilities, and the HOME Investment Partnerships program. Authorize a grant program to help states most efficiently navigate federal and state housing funding sources. Ensure that federal housing and homelessness assistance is affirmatively furthering racial equity and fair housing.
- Address the **homelessness crisis** by investing in Housing Choice Vouchers, Project-Based Rental Assistance, the emergency solutions grant program (which helps with street outreach, rapid re-housing assistance, emergency shelter, and homelessness prevention), and Continuums of Care. Commission a GAO report on the relationship between evictions and emergency rental assistance.
- Support **innovative, locally developed approaches to these crises** by investing in programs that offer a safe place to park overnight and facilitate access to rehousing services and essential services; investing in hotel and motel conversions to permanent supportive housing with supportive services; investing in the Eviction Protection Grant Program, which supports experienced legal service providers in providing legal assistance at no cost to low-income tenants at risk of or subject to eviction; investing in mobile crisis intervention teams to help those with medical or psychological needs avoid the criminal justice system; investing in libraries that support people experiencing homelessness; and investing in inclusive transit-oriented development and infill development.