

House Resolution 376

By: Representatives Schofield of the 60th, Boddie of the 62nd, and Dreyer of the 59th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending the National League of Cities' – Mayors Challenge to End
2 Veteran Homelessness; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, in January, 2014, communities across America identified 49,933 homeless
4 veterans during point-in-time counts, representing 8.6 percent of the total homeless
5 population; and

6 WHEREAS, American veterans are more likely than civilians to experience homelessness,
7 in part because they have a higher risk of experiencing traumatic brain injuries and
8 post-traumatic stress disorder, both of which have been found to be among the most
9 substantial risk factors for homelessness; and

10 WHEREAS, more than 3,000 veterans sleep on the streets of Georgia each night, including
11 19 homeless veterans identified in 2017 within the HUD Continuum of Care District of
12 Fulton County, GA 502 COC, where the City of East Point is located; and

13 WHEREAS, American veterans would benefit from integrated services that provide secure
14 housing, nutritional meals, basic physical health care, substance abuse care and aftercare,
15 mental health counseling, personal development, and empowerment; and

16 WHEREAS, in its report entitled *10 Strategies to End Veterans Homelessness*, the United
17 States Interagency Council on Homelessness presented the following recommended
18 strategies: (1) get state and local leaders to publicly commit to and coordinate efforts on
19 ending veteran homelessness; (2) implement a housing first system orientation and response;
20 (3) implement a coordinated entry system; (4) set and meet ambitious short-term and
21 long-term goals by effectively deploying all resources; (5) improve transitional housing
22 performance and consider adopting different models and/or converting or reallocating
23 resources into supportive housing; (6) engage and support private landlords as partners; (7)
24 identify and be accountable to all veterans experiencing homelessness; (8) conduct

25 coordinated outreach and engagement efforts; (9) increase connections to employment; and
26 (10) coordinate with legal services organizations to solve legal needs; and

27 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the outstanding objectives and strategies
28 of the National League of Cities' – Mayors Challenge to End Veteran Homelessness be
29 appropriately recognized.

30 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
31 the members of this body recognize the National League of Cities' – Mayors Challenge to
32 End Veteran Homelessness and commend the campaign's outstanding efforts in securing and
33 aligning state and local support to end veteran homelessness in our community.

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
35 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the
36 public and the press.