

April 22nd, 2025

Vermont Senate Committee on Health and Welfare
115 State Street
Montpelier, VT 05633

Re: H.91 – An act relating to the Vermont Homeless Emergency Assistance and Responsive Transition to Housing Program

Dear Chairwoman Lyons and Members of the Committee,

My name is Lynn Currier Stanley, and I am the Executive Director of the National Association of Social Workers, Vermont. I am writing to express our support for H.91. The NASW Code of Ethics promotes many values, such as social justice and the dignity and worth of the person. People experiencing homelessness in Vermont deserve to have access to shelter, support, and safety at all times.

Homelessness is a crisis in this state that needs to be addressed immediately. We recognize the high demand and needs in Vermont. While we are developing ways to increase housing resources, including community supports, emergency shelters are a necessity which must continue to be available.

We also support the provision in H.91 which creates an advisory committee that includes the voices of Vermonters who have experienced homelessness, along with community organizations.

We strongly urge the Senate to pass H.91 while continuing to address the *roots* of homelessness.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Currier Stanley, LICSW
Executive Director
NASW VT