Please email your letter to: leg.unit@gov.ca.gov, angela.hill@sen.ca.gov and klewis@hrdowden.com

ASAP, but ideally no later than 5pm on Friday, September 7, 2018

(On letterhead)

[DATE]

The Honorable Edmund G. Brown, Jr.

Governor of California

State Capitol Building

Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: SB 918 (Wiener) – Homeless Youth Act of 2018**

**Position: Support & Request for Signature**

Dear Governor Brown,

On behalf of [Organization], I am writing in support of SB 918 (Wiener), and urge you to sign this bill into law. This bill will require the Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council (Council) to take on additional duties to set specific goals to prevent and end youth experiencing homelessness.

[Insert paragraph about your organization and why addressing youth experiencing homelessness is important.]

California has the highest number of unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness in the country and the second highest number of youth who are unsheltered. Yet, California lacks a clear strategy to prevent and end homelessness among young people. This bill will require the Council to provide a coordinating role, set statewide goals and outcome measures, and evaluate the effectiveness of programs in reaching those goals in order to reduce the number of young people experiencing homelessness.

Solving youth homelessness is a critical part of ending California’s larger homelessness crisis because young people who experience homelessness are five times more likely than their peers to become homeless adults. No young person should have to choose between school and the streets or between meaningful work and the street economy. No young person should be sleeping on a city bus or camping on a sidewalk. SB 918 will help California’s young people who are experiencing homelessness to ensure that any episode is rare, brief, and non-recurring.

For these reasons, [Organization] is pleased to support SB 918 and urges you to sign important measure into law.

Sincerely,

[Name]

[Title, Organization]

cc: Senator Scott Wiener

 Assembly Member Blanca Rubio