PETITION: "Allocate the 18+ Million Abandoned Properties Throughout The U.S. To *Natural Persons* Who Choose to "Opt to Homestead" via Enacting 'The Homestead Subsidization Act'"



Special thanks to www.MindUnleashed.org for this graphic we're using under Fair Use:

#### **#1.)** Statistics:

- There are approximately **3.5 million homeless people in the U.S.**[1]
- Approximately **50,000 veterans are homeless**[2], & about ~**1.4 million veterans considered "at risk of homelessness"** due to *poverty, lack of support networks,* & dismal living conditions in overcrowded or substandard housing.[3]
- 1 in 2 Americans have fallen into poverty <u>or</u> are struggling to live on low incomes.
- Since 2007, banks have foreclosed around eight million homes, averaging 10,000 per month!
- There are 18.5 million abandoned properties just "sitting there" throughout towns & cities of all sizes (that banks foreclosed on <u>or</u> people died in & the family left it abandoned, mismanaged estates). These properties are basically going to rot, get fixed up by real estate agencies & rented back out to the people, <u>OR</u> we <u>can</u> choose to manage these resources wisely via creating

#### *Real* Housing Solutions For People *Coupled With* An En Masse Homesteading Movement

The National Economic and Social Rights Initiative along with Amnesty International are asking the U.S. to step up its efforts to address the foreclosure crisis, including by giving serious consideration to the growing call for a foreclosure moratorium *and* other forms of relief for those at risk, *and* establishing a housing finance system that fulfills human rights obligations.[4]

#### **#2.)** The Proposal:

- To charter a federal program designed "to map all properties which have been *physically abandoned* for two or more years, *TAKE* such properties using EMINENT DOMAIN, & then to *fund* basic repairs needed (*ie electricity, plumbing, insulation, foundation, etc.*)". Each such parcel is entered into a *database,* & Citizens may *opt* to "Homestead" at any Human Resources Department office in order to *select a reclaimed property from within the area* for the purpose of "growing enough food to feed themselves *and* others". After 5 years of occupation *and* fulfilling obligation, paying taxes, *and* maintaining all *non-arbitrary* & *capricious* health & safety code regulations compliances, Claimant gains *Title* to the real property.
- To provide educational material *alongside* "Homesteading Starter Kits", *which include a* variety of "heirloom seeds" in "kits" coupled with seeds for "plants which require similar care" &/or "companion plants". Kits include: "Full Sunlight, Low Water" kit, "Leafy Greens (& herbs & spices of similar care)", "The 3 Sisters", "Cold Frame Plants", & more). Kit instructions also contain "highly-efficient growing techniques researched from around the world".



Shown At Left: The "double-planter technique" for growing potatoes & yams. This is one of many "highly-efficient growing techniques researched from around the world" mentioned in the above proposal which can also be found on www.WildWillpower.org. Photo Source:

https://www.pinterest.com/pin/335096028503132580/

**Note:** Properties are <u>not</u> to be given out as mere crash pads <u>or</u> to people who simply want to "fix them up & rent them out" <u>or</u> "fix them up & sell them"; we're seeking to <u>improve</u> the paradigm rather than keeping our kids stuck in this one.

### #3.) How "The Homestead Subsidization Act" Will Help Us All:

•Immediately end homelessness *with houses to spare*, creating *independence* for people rather than *dependence*; *also gives renters "alternative option" to homestead*.

•Greatly reduce peoples' grocery bills.

•*Greatly* reduce the incessant filling of landfills <u>AND</u> the filling of oceans with plastic waste because "gardens aren't wrapped in garbage".

•*Greatly* reduce humanity's carbon footprint (less hauling of food great distances, reduce dependence on resource-intensive animal agriculture, & so on).

•Greatly reduce peoples' dependence upon food stamps (aka SNAP or EBT), thus *saving* tax dollars.

•Help create a <u>healthy</u> & ecologically sustainable food supply to help <u>replace</u> the GMO & animal agriculture-based food supply we currently have in place, *thus creating a healthier Citizenry*.



•Will create a diverse organic agricultural economy WITH new micro-economies "cropping up" everywhere!

•Alleviate strain on communities trying to keep up with poverty in their areas.

•*Relieves people* from what will become unnecessary *excess* labor: trucking & other forms of commercial hauling, garbage collecting & waste management, & so on) in a way which is "more beneficial to <u>all</u> people than the current paradigm is to <u>anyone</u>".

### Why Are So Many Houses Abandoned?

Many are abandoned due to *foreclosures*, & since no one can afford to purchase them back from the bank *or* because they simply can't sell- they just "sit there". Others become abandoned when someone passes away & the family members simply don't have the time or finances to deal with it- "the estate handles it", & then one or two generations later its "out of sight, out of mind" to the owner, & *this* is when perfectly good houses begin *rotting* n the middle of neighborhoods.

#### **Source Links:**

[1]: National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty,

2007: http://www.nationalhomeless.org/factsheets/How\_Many.html

[2]: National Alliance to End Homelessness. The State of Homelessness in America. 2015: http://www.endhomelessness.org/library/entry/fact-sheet-veteran-homelessness

[3]: National Coalition of Homeless

Veterans: http://nchv.org/index.php/news/media/background\_and\_statistics/

National Economic & Social Rights Initiative Home Page: https://www.nesri.org/

Amnesty International Home Page: https://www.amnesty.org/en

[4]: *Article* by *The Mind Unleashed*, "18,600,000 vacant homes in the United States. Enough for every homeless person to have

six!": http://themindunleashed.org/2014/02/18600000-vacant-homes-united-statesenough-every-homeless-person-six.html

LEED, U.S. Green Building Council: http://www.usgbc.org/leed

**Note:** If there are any questions, concerns, or statistics to bring to our attention, please contact Distance@WildWillpower.org. Thank you!

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