

116TH CONGRESS H.R. 7084

To authorize emergency rental voucher assistance, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

June 1, 2020

Ms. Waters introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Financial Services

A BILL

To authorize emergency rental voucher assistance, and for other purposes.

- 1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
- 2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,
- 3 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.
- 4 This Act may be cited as the "Emergency Housing
- 5 Voucher Act of 2020".
- 6 SEC. 2. EMERGENCY RENTAL ASSISTANCE VOUCHER PRO-
- 7 GRAM.
- 8 (a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
- 9 authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Housing
- 10 and Urban Development (in this section referred to as the

1	"Secretary"), \$10,000,000,000 for fiscal year 2020, to re-
2	main available until expended, for—
3	(1) 200,000 incremental emergency vouchers
4	under subsection (b);
5	(2) renewals of the vouchers under subsection
6	(b); and
7	(3) fees for the costs of administering vouchers
8	under subsection (b).
9	(b) Emergency Vouchers.—
10	(1) In General.—The Secretary shall provide
11	emergency rental assistance vouchers under this sub-
12	section, which shall be tenant-based rental assistance
13	under section 8(o) of the United States Housing Act
14	of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)).
15	(2) Selection of families.—
16	(A) MANDATORY PREFERENCES.—Each
17	public housing agency administering assistance
18	under this section shall provide preference for
19	such assistance to eligible families that are—
20	(i) homeless (as such term is defined
21	in section 103(a) of the McKinney-Vento
22	Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C.
23	11302(a));
24	(ii) at risk of homelessness (as such
25	term is defined in section 401 of the

1	McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act
2	(42 U.S.C. 11360)); or
3	(iii) fleeing, or attempting to flee, do-
4	mestic violence, dating violence, sexual as-
5	sault, or stalking.
6	(B) Allocation.—In allocating amounts
7	made available under this section, the Secretary
8	shall—
9	(i) not later than 60 days after the
10	date of the enactment of this Act, allocate
11	at least 50 percent of such amounts to
12	public housing agencies in accordance with
13	a formula that considers—
14	(I) the capability of public hous-
15	ing agencies to promptly use emer-
16	gency vouchers provided under this
17	section; and
18	(II) the need for emergency
19	vouchers provided under this section
20	in the geographical area, based on
21	factors determined by the Secretary,
22	including risk of transmission of
23	coronavirus, high numbers or rates of
24	sheltered and unsheltered homeless-

1	ness, and economic and housing mar-
2	ket conditions;
3	(ii) allocate remaining amounts in ac-
4	cordance with a formula that considers—
5	(I) the criteria under clause (i)
6	and the success of a public housing
7	agency in promptly utilizing vouchers
8	awarded under clause (i); and
9	(II) the capability of the public
10	housing agency to create and manage
11	structured partnerships with service
12	providers for the delivery of appro-
13	priate community-based services; and
14	(iii) designate the number of vouchers
15	under this section that each public housing
16	agency that is awarded funds under this
17	section is authorized to administer.
18	(C) Election not to administer.—If a
19	public housing agency elects not to administer
20	amounts under this section, the Secretary shall
21	award such amounts to other public housing
22	agencies according to the criteria in subpara-
23	graph (B).
24	(D) Failure to use vouchers prompt-
25	Ly.—If a public housing agency fails to issue

all of its authorized vouchers under this section on behalf of eligible families within a reasonable period of time as determined by the Secretary, the Secretary shall reallocate any unissued vouchers and associated funds to others public housing agencies according to the criteria under subparagraph (B)(ii).

- (3) Waivers and alternative requirement that the Secretary makes available to all public housing agencies in connection with assistance made available under the heading "Tenant-Based Rental Assistance" in title XII of division B of the CARES Act (Public Law 116–136; 134 Stat. 601) shall apply to assistance under this section until the expiration of such waiver or alternative requirement.
- (4) Termination of vouchers upon turnover.—
 - (A) IN GENERAL.—A public housing agency may not reissue any vouchers made available under this section when assistance for the family initially assisted is terminated.
 - (B) REALLOCATION.—Upon termination of assistance for one or more families assisted by a public housing agency under this section, the

Secretary shall reallocate amounts that are no longer needed by such public housing agency for assistance under this section to another public housing agency for the renewal of vouchers previously authorized under this section.

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