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(Original Signature of Member)

116TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 7084

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

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. WATERS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the  
Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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## 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

1 and Urban Development (in this section referred to as the  
2 “Secretary”), \$10,000,000,000 for fiscal year 2020, to re-  
3 main available until expended, for—

4 (1) 200,000 incremental emergency vouchers  
5 under subsection (b);

6 (2) renewals of the vouchers under subsection  
7 (b); and

8 (3) fees for the costs of administering vouchers  
9 under subsection (b).

10 (b) EMERGENCY VOUCHERS.—

11 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall provide  
12 emergency rental assistance vouchers under this sub-  
13 section, which shall be tenant-based rental assistance  
14 under section 8(o) the United States Housing Act of  
15 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)).

16 (2) SELECTION OF FAMILIES.—

17 (A) MANDATORY PREFERENCES.—Each  
18 public housing agency administering assistance  
19 under this section shall provide preference for  
20 such assistance to eligible families that are—

21 (i) homeless (as such term is defined  
22 in section 103(a) of the McKinney-Vento  
23 Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C.  
24 11302(a));

1 (ii) at risk of homelessness (as such  
2 term is defined in section 401 of the  
3 McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act  
4 (42 U.S.C. 11360); or

5 (iii) fleeing, or attempting to flee, do-  
6 mestic violence, dating violence, sexual as-  
7 sault, or stalking.

8 (B) ALLOCATION.—In allocating amounts  
9 made available under this section, the Secretary  
10 shall—

11 (i) not later than 60 days after the  
12 date of the enactment of this Act, allocate  
13 at least 50 percent of such amounts to  
14 public housing agencies in accordance with  
15 a formula that considers—

16 (I) the capability of public hous-  
17 ing agencies to promptly use emer-  
18 gency vouchers provided under this  
19 section; and

20 (II) the need for emergency  
21 vouchers provided under this section  
22 in the geographical area, based on  
23 factors determined by the Secretary,  
24 including risk of transmission of  
25 coronavirus, high numbers or rates of

1 sheltered and unsheltered homeless-  
2 ness, and economic and housing mar-  
3 ket conditions;

4 (ii) allocate remaining amounts in ac-  
5 cordance with a formula that considers—

6 (I) the criteria under clause (i)  
7 and the success of a public housing  
8 agency in promptly utilizing vouchers  
9 awarded under clause (i); and

10 (II) the capability of the public  
11 housing agency to create and manage  
12 structured partnerships with service  
13 providers for the delivery of appro-  
14 priate community-based services; and

15 (iii) designate the number of vouchers  
16 under this section that each public housing  
17 agency that is awarded funds under this  
18 section is authorized to administer.

19 (C) ELECTION NOT TO ADMINISTER.—If a  
20 public housing agency elects not to administer  
21 amounts under this section, the Secretary shall  
22 award such amounts to other public housing  
23 agencies according to the criteria in subpara-  
24 graph (B).

1 (D) FAILURE TO USE VOUCHERS PROMPT-  
2 LY.—If a public housing agency fails to issue  
3 all of its authorized vouchers under this section  
4 on behalf of eligible families within a reasonable  
5 period of time as determined by the Secretary,  
6 the Secretary shall reallocate any unissued  
7 vouchers and associated funds to others public  
8 housing agencies according to the criteria under  
9 subparagraph (B)(ii).

10 (3) WAIVERS AND ALTERNATIVE REQUIRE-  
11 MENTS.—Any waiver or alternative requirement that  
12 the Secretary makes available to all public housing  
13 agencies in connection with assistance made avail-  
14 able under the heading “Tenant-Based Rental As-  
15 sistance” in title XII of division B of the CARES  
16 Act (Public Law 116-136; 134 Stat.601) shall apply  
17 to assistance under this section until the expiration  
18 of such waiver or alternative requirement.

19 (4) TERMINATION OF VOUCHERS UPON TURN-  
20 OVER.—

21 (A) IN GENERAL.—A public housing agen-  
22 cy may not reissue any vouchers made available  
23 under this section when assistance for the fam-  
24 ily initially assisted is terminated.

1                   (B) REALLOCATION.—Upon termination of  
2                   assistance for one or more families assisted by  
3                   a public housing agency under this section, the  
4                   Secretary shall reallocate amounts that are no  
5                   longer needed by such public housing agency  
6                   for assistance under this section to another  
7                   public housing agency for the renewal of vouch-  
8                   ers previously authorized under this section.