

**[DISCUSSION DRAFT]**117<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION**H. R.** \_\_\_\_\_

To suspend certain requirements under the public housing and housing choice voucher programs during the COVID-19 emergency and to authorize supplemental funding for supportive housing for the elderly, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. CLEAVER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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**A BILL**

To suspend certain requirements under the public housing and housing choice voucher programs during the COVID-19 emergency and to authorize supplemental funding for supportive housing for the elderly, 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 “Supporting Seniors  
5       and Tenants in Subsidized Housing Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. SUSPENSION OF COMMUNITY SERVICE, WORK,**  
2 **PRESENCE IN UNIT, AND MINIMUM RENT RE-**  
3 **QUIREMENTS AND TIME LIMITS ON ASSIST-**  
4 **ANCE.**

5 (a) SUSPENSION.—Notwithstanding any other provi-  
6 sion of law, during the period that begins upon the date  
7 of the enactment of this Act and ends 6 months after the  
8 end of the incident period for the emergency declared on  
9 March 13, 2020, by the President under section 501 of  
10 the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency As-  
11 sistance Act (42 U.S.C. 4121 et seq.) relating to the  
12 Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, the fol-  
13 lowing provisions of law and requirements shall not apply:

14 (1) Section 12(c) of the United States Housing  
15 Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437j(c); relating to com-  
16 munity service).

17 (2) Any work requirement or time limitation on  
18 assistance established by a public housing agency  
19 participating in the Moving to Work demonstration  
20 program authorized under section 204 of the De-  
21 partments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and  
22 Urban Development and Independent Agencies Ap-  
23 propriations Act, 1996 (Public Law 104–134; 110  
24 Stat. 1321).

1           (3) Paragraph (3) of section 3(a) of the United  
2           States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437a(a)(3);  
3           relating to minimum rental amount).

4           (4) Section 982.312 of the regulations of the  
5           Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (24  
6           C.F.R. 982.312); relating to absence from unit).

7           (b) PROHIBITION.—No penalty may be imposed nor  
8           any adverse action taken for failure on the part of any  
9           tenant of public housing or a dwelling unit assisted under  
10          section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42  
11          U.S.C. 1437f) to comply with the laws and requirements  
12          specified in subsection (a) during the period specified in  
13          subsection (a).

14          **SEC. 3. HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHERS.**

15          (a) SECTION 8 VOUCHERS.—Notwithstanding any  
16          other provision of law, the Secretary of Housing and  
17          Urban Development shall provide that—

18                 (1) during the COVID-19 emergency period, a  
19                 public housing agency may not terminate the avail-  
20                 ability to an eligible household of a housing choice  
21                 voucher under section 8(o) of the United States  
22                 Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)) for fail-  
23                 ure to enter into a lease for an assisted dwelling  
24                 unit; and

1           (2) in the case of any eligible household on  
2 whose behalf such a housing choice voucher has been  
3 made available, if as of the termination of the  
4 COVID-19 emergency period such availability has  
5 not terminated (including by reason of paragraph  
6 (1) of this subsection) and such voucher has not  
7 been used to enter into a lease for an assisted dwell-  
8 ing unit, the public housing agency making such  
9 voucher available may not terminate such availability  
10 until the expiration of the 60-day period beginning  
11 upon the termination of the COVID-19 emergency  
12 period.

13       (b) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this section, the  
14 term “COVID-19 emergency period” means the period  
15 that begins upon the date of the enactment of this Act  
16 and ends upon the end of the incident period for the emer-  
17 gency declared on March 13, 2020, by the President under  
18 section 501 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and  
19 Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5191) relating to  
20 the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic.

21 **SEC. 4. SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING FOR SUPPORTIVE HOUS-**  
22 **ING FOR THE ELDERLY.**

23       (a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is  
24 authorized to be appropriated **[\$1,202,000,000]** for fiscal

1 year 2021 for assistance for supportive housing for the  
2 elderly, of which—

3 (1) **【\$845,000,000】** shall be for rental assist-  
4 ance under section 202 of the Housing Act of 1959  
5 (12 U.S.C. 1701q) or section 8 of the United States  
6 Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f), as appro-  
7 priate, and for hiring additional staff and for serv-  
8 ices and costs, including acquiring personal protec-  
9 tive equipment, to prevent, prepare for, or respond  
10 to the public health emergency relating to  
11 Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic  
12 for—

13 (A) projects for which assistance is pro-  
14 vided under a project rental assistance contract  
15 under section 202(c)(2) of the Housing Act of  
16 1959 (12 U.S.C. 1701q(c)(2));

17 (B) projects for which a direct loan under  
18 section 202 of such Act was made and for  
19 which assistance is provided under section 8 of  
20 the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42  
21 U.S.C. 1437f); and

22 (C) projects for which project-based assist-  
23 ance is provided under such section 8 in which  
24 more than 80 percent of tenants are 62 years  
25 of age or older;

1           (2) **【\$50,000,000】** shall be for installation of,  
2           and service fees for, wireless internet services in  
3           projects and individual units described in paragraph  
4           (1);

5           (3) **【\$7,000,000】** for a 1-year extension of the  
6           Supportive Services Demonstration (SSD) of the  
7           Department of Housing and Urban Development,  
8           authorized under the heading “Housing for the El-  
9           derly” in title II of the Transportation, Housing and  
10          Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appro-  
11          priations Act, 2014 (division L of Public Law 113–  
12          76; 128 Stat. 618); and

13          (4) **【\$300,000,000】** shall be for grants under  
14          section 676 of the Housing and Community Devel-  
15          opment Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 13632) for costs of  
16          providing service coordinators for purposes of coordi-  
17          nating services to prevent, prepare for, or respond to  
18          the public health emergency relating to Coronavirus  
19          Disease 2019 (COVID-19).

20          (b) ELIGIBILITY OF SUPPORTIVE HOUSING FOR PER-  
21          SONS WITH DISABILITIES.—Subsection (a) of section 676  
22          of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992  
23          (42 U.S.C. 13632(a)) shall be applied, for purposes of  
24          subsection (a) of this section, by substituting “(G), and  
25          (H)” for “and (G)”.

1 (c) SERVICE COORDINATORS.—

2 (1) HIRING.—In the hiring of staff using  
3 amounts made available pursuant to this section for  
4 costs of providing service coordinators, grantees  
5 shall consider and hire, at all levels of employment  
6 and to the greatest extent possible, a diverse staff,  
7 including by race, ethnicity, gender, and disability  
8 status. Each grantee shall submit a report to the  
9 Secretary of Housing and Urban Development de-  
10 scribing compliance with the preceding sentence not  
11 later than the expiration of the 120-day period that  
12 begins upon the termination of the emergency de-  
13 clared on March 13, 2020, by the President under  
14 the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emer-  
15 gency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 4121 et seq.) relat-  
16 ing to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)  
17 pandemic.

18 (2) ONE-TIME GRANTS.—Grants made using  
19 amounts made available pursuant to subsection (a)  
20 for costs of providing service coordinators shall not  
21 be renewable.

22 (3) ONE-YEAR AVAILABILITY.—Any amounts  
23 made available pursuant to this section for costs of  
24 providing service coordinators that are allocated for  
25 a grantee and remain unexpended upon the expira-

- 1 tion of the 12-month period beginning upon such al-
- 2 location shall be recaptured by the Secretary.