

Senate Passes FY20 Spending **Package with Increases for Affordable Housing**

Nov 04, 2019

The Senate approved by a vote of 84-9 on October 31 a four-bill FY20 spending package that increases funding for affordable housing and community development investments at HUD and USDA, as well as several positive amendments. This outcome is due to the influence of affordable housing advocates and to the leadership of strong congressional champions, including Transportation-HUD (THUD) Appropriations Chair Susan Collins (R-ME) and Ranking Member Jack Reed (D-RI). While the passage of this bill is an important step in the funding process, the House and Senate still need to reach an agreement on a final spending bill to ensure continued funding for federal programs and avoid a government shutdown. The government is currently operating under a stop-gap continuing resolution through November 21.

The House spending package provides modest funding increases for affordable housing programs and rejects President Trump's call for deep cuts to and even the elimination of affordable housing investments. Overall, the bill provides HUD programs with more than \$11.9 billion above the president's FY20 request and \$2.3 billion above FY19 enacted levels – an amount likely sufficient to renew all existing rental assistance contracts and to provide level funding or modest increases to most other programs. The bill does include cuts to some programs, including Choice Neighborhoods, Housing for Persons with AIDS, Indian Housing Block Grants, and Community Development Block Grants, and the legislation fails to match important increases included in the House bill, which was passed prior to a budget agreement on overall spending levels.

The Senate also approved several amendments that help protect and expand affordable housing. These amendments included one offered by Senator Tina Smith (D-MN) allowing USDA to extend rental assistance agreements for projects financed by existing Section 514 or 515 loans for up to 20 years, ensuring residents of these properties can remain affordably housed for a longer period of time.

Another amendment from Senator Smith prioritizes maintenance of USDA rural housing properties through capital repairs, staffing provisions, and enforcement, and an amendment from Senator Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH) calls on Congress to create a tax incentive to encourage owners of manufactured home communities to transfer properties to nonprofit organizations and residents to help preserve the homes' affordability. The Senate also agreed to amendments that would set aside technical assistance funds for the Tribal HUD-VASH program and provide \$3 million to carry out the emergency and transitional pet shelter and housing assistance grant program, which helps ensure victims of domestic violence seeking shelter are also able to secure safe shelter for their pets, service animals, or emotional support animals.

The bill does not include important provisions approved by the House that would stop harmful proposals by the Trump administration. The House bill contains language that would prevent HUD from implementing its harmful "mixed-status (https://nlihc.org/resource/trump-administration-publishes-proposedmixed-status-rule-would-lead-family-separations)" immigrant-family rule and would stop HUD from rolling back protections for LGBTQ+ people, including the agency's Equal Access rule (https://nlihc.org/resource/hud-proposes-weaken-equalaccess-rule-protections-lgbtq-people-experiencing-homelessness) ensuring transgender people have access to emergency shelters and other facilities that match their gender identity.

Read NLIHC's analysis of the THUD and Agriculture bills at: https://tinyurl.com /y5ycvkuz (https://tinyurl.com/y5ycvkuz)

Review NLIHC's budget chart at: https://tinyurl.com/y6tnabuo (https://tinyurl.com /y6tnabuo)

FY20 Budget Chart for Selected HUD and USDA Programs



September 19, 2019

HUD Programs (set asides italicized) (In millions)	FY19 Final	FY20 President	FY20 House	FY20 Senate	FY20 Enacted
Tenant Based Rental Assistance	22,598	22,244	23,810	23,833	
Contract Renewals	20,313	20,116	21,400	21,502	
Tenant Protection Vouchers	85	130	150	75	
Administrative Fees	1,886	1,738	1,925	1,977	
Section 811 Mainstream Vouchers	225	260	225	218	
Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing Vouchers	40	0	40	40	
Tribal Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing Vouchers	4	0	5	1	
Family Unification	20	0	40	20	
Mobility Demonstration	25	0	25	0	
Public Housing Capital Fund	2,775	0	2,855	2,855	
Emergency/Disaster Grants	30	10	30	50	
Public Housing Operating Fund	4,653	2,863	4,753	4,650	
Choice Neighborhoods Initiative	150	0	300	100	
Self-Sufficiency Programs					
Family Self-Sufficiency	80	75	100	80	
Jobs-Plus Pilot	15	15	15	15	
NAHASDA					
Native American Housing Block Grant	655	600	671	646	
Competitive Grants	100	0	100	100	
Native Haw. Hsg Block Grants	2	0	2	2	
Hsg. Opp. for Persons with AIDS	393	330	410	330	
Community Development Fund	3,365	0	3,600	3,325	
HOME Investment Partnerships	1,250	0	1,750	1,250	
Self-Help Homeownership Opportunity	10	0	10	10	
Homeless Assistance Grants	2,636	2,599	2,800	2,761	
Rental Assistance Demonstration	0	100	0	0	
Project-Based Rental Assistance	11,747	12,021	12,590	12,560	
Hsg. for the Elderly (202)	678	644	803	696	
Hsg. for Persons w/Disabilities (811)	184	157	259	184	
Housing Counseling Assistance	50	45	60	45	
Policy Development & Research	96	87	98	96	
Fair Hsg. & Equal Opportunity	65	62	75	65	
Fair Housing Assistance Program	24	24	27	23.5	
Fair Housing Initiatives Program	39	36	46.4	39.9	
Healthy Homes & Lead Hazard	279	290	290	290	

USDA Programs (set asides italicized) (In millions)	FY19 Final	FY20 President	FY20 House	FY20 Senate	FY20 Final
Section 514 Farm Labor Hsg. Loans	27.5	0	30	27.5	
Section 516 Farm Labor Hsg Grants	10	0	10	10	
Combined 514/516 Subsidy	16.9	0	19.4	18.6	
Section 515 Rental Housing Direct Loans	40	0	45	40	
515 Subsidy	9	0	13.6	12.1	
Section 521 Rental Assistance	1,331	1,407	1,375	1,375	
Multifamily Preservation & Revitalization	51.5	0	75	56.5	
Preservation Demonstration	24.5	0	40	24.5	
Section 542 Vouchers	27	0	35	32	