

Union Calendar No. 628

115TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 5793

[Report No. 115-809]

To authorize the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to carry out a housing choice voucher mobility demonstration to encourage families receiving such voucher assistance to move to lower-poverty areas and expand access to opportunity areas.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 15, 2018

Mr. DUFFY (for himself and Mr. CLEAVER) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Financial Services

JULY 10, 2018

Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union
and ordered to be printed

A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to carry out a housing choice voucher mobility demonstration to encourage families receiving such voucher assistance to move to lower-poverty areas and expand access to opportunity areas.

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 “Housing Choice Vouch-

5 er Mobility Demonstration Act of 2018”.

6 **SEC. 2. HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER MOBILITY DEM-**
7 **ONSTRATION.**

8 (a) **AUTHORITY.**—The Secretary of Housing and
9 Urban Development (in this section referred to as the
10 “Secretary”) may carry out a mobility demonstration pro-
11 gram to enable public housing agencies to administer
12 housing choice voucher assistance under section 8(o) of
13 the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C.
14 1437f(o)) in a manner designed to encourage families re-
15 ceiving such voucher assistance to move to lower-poverty
16 areas and expand access to opportunity areas.

17 (b) **SELECTION OF PHAS.**—

18 (1) **REQUIREMENTS.**—The Secretary shall es-
19 tablish requirements for public housing agencies to
20 participate in the demonstration program under this
21 section, which shall provide that the following public
22 housing agencies may participate:

23 (A) Public housing agencies that to-
24 gether—

1 (i) serve areas with high concentra-
2 tions of holders of rental assistance vouch-
3 ers under section 8(o) of the United States
4 Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o))
5 in poor, low-opportunity neighborhoods;
6 and

7 (ii) have an adequate number of mod-
8 erately priced rental units in higher-oppor-
9 tunity areas.

10 (B) Planned consortia or partial consortia
11 of public housing agencies that—

12 (i) include at least one agency with a
13 high-performing Family Self-Sufficiency
14 (FSS) program; and

15 (ii) will enable participating families
16 to continue in such program if they relo-
17 cate to the jurisdiction served by any other
18 agency of the consortium.

19 (C) Planned consortia or partial consortia
20 of public housing agencies that—

21 (i) serve jurisdictions within a single
22 region;

23 (ii) include one or more small agen-
24 cies; and

1 (iii) will consolidate mobility focused
2 operations.

3 (D) Such other public housing agencies as
4 the Secretary considers appropriate.

5 (2) SELECTION CRITERIA.—The Secretary shall
6 establish competitive selection criteria for public
7 housing agencies eligible under paragraph (1) to
8 participate in the demonstration program under this
9 section.

10 (3) RANDOM SELECTION OF FAMILIES.—The
11 Secretary may require participating agencies to use
12 a randomized selection process to select among the
13 families eligible to receive mobility assistance under
14 the demonstration program.

15 (c) REGIONAL HOUSING MOBILITY PLAN.—The Sec-
16 retary shall require each public housing agency applying
17 to participate in the demonstration program under this
18 section to submit a Regional Housing Mobility Plan (in
19 this section referred to as a “Plan”), which shall—

20 (1) identify the public housing agencies that
21 will participate under the Plan and the number of
22 vouchers each participating agency will make avail-
23 able out of their existing programs in connection
24 with the demonstration;

1 (2) identify any community-based organizations,
2 nonprofit organizations, businesses, and other enti-
3 ties that will participate under the Plan and describe
4 the commitments for such participation made by
5 each such entity;

6 (3) identify any waivers or alternative require-
7 ments requested for the execution of the Plan;

8 (4) identify any specific actions that the public
9 housing agencies and other entities will undertake to
10 accomplish the goals of the demonstration, which
11 shall include a comprehensive approach to enable a
12 successful transition to opportunity areas and may
13 include counseling and continued support for fami-
14 lies;

15 (5) specify the criteria that the public housing
16 agencies would use to identify opportunity areas
17 under the plan;

18 (6) provide for establishment of priority and
19 preferences for participating families, including a
20 preference for families with young children, as such
21 term is defined by the Secretary, based on regional
22 housing needs and priorities; and

23 (7) comply with any other requirements estab-
24 lished by the Secretary.

25 (d) FUNDING FOR MOBILITY-RELATED SERVICES.—

1 (1) USE OF ADMINISTRATIVE FEES.—Public
2 housing agencies participating in the demonstration
3 program under this section may use administrative
4 fees under section 8(q) of the United States Housing
5 Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(q)), their administra-
6 tive fee reserves, and funding from private entities
7 to provide mobility-related services in connection
8 with the demonstration program, including services
9 such as counseling, portability coordination, landlord
10 outreach, security deposits, and administrative ac-
11 tivities associated with establishing and operating re-
12 gional mobility programs.

13 (2) USE OF HOUSING ASSISTANCE FUNDS.—
14 Public housing agencies participating in the dem-
15 onstration under this section may use housing as-
16 sistance payments funds under section 8(o) of the
17 United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C.
18 1437f(o)) for security deposits if necessary to enable
19 families to lease units with vouchers in designated
20 opportunity areas.

21 (e) WAIVERS; ALTERNATIVE REQUIREMENTS.—

22 (1) WAIVERS.—To allow for public housing
23 agencies to implement and administer their Regional
24 Housing Mobility Plans, the Secretary may waive or
25 specify alternative requirements for the following

1 provisions of the United States Housing Act of
2 1937:

3 (A) Sections 8(o)(7)(A) and 8(o)(13)(E)(i)
4 (relating to the term of a lease and mobility re-
5 quirements).

6 (B) Section 8(o)(13)(C)(i) (relating to the
7 public housing plan for an agency).

8 (C) Section 8(r)(2) (relating to the respon-
9 sibility of a public housing agency to administer
10 ported assistance).

11 (2) ALTERNATIVE REQUIREMENTS.—The Sec-
12 retary shall provide additional authority for public
13 housing agencies in a selected region to form a con-
14 sortium that has a single housing choice voucher
15 funding contract, or to enter into a partial consor-
16 tium to operate all or portions of the Regional Hous-
17 ing Mobility Plan, including agencies participating in
18 the Moving To Work Demonstration program.

19 (3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Any waiver or alter-
20 native requirements pursuant to this subsection shall
21 not take effect before the expiration of the 10-day
22 period beginning upon publication of notice of such
23 waiver or alternative requirement in the Federal
24 Register.

1 (f) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Secretary may imple-
2 ment the demonstration, including its terms, procedures,
3 requirements, and conditions, by notice.

4 (g) EVALUATION.—Not later than five years after im-
5 plementation of the regional housing mobility programs
6 under the demonstration program under this section, the
7 Secretary shall submit to the Congress and publish in the
8 Federal Register a report evaluating the effectiveness of
9 the strategies pursued under the demonstration, subject
10 to the availability of funding to conduct the evaluation.
11 Through official websites and other methods, the Sec-
12 retary shall disseminate interim findings as they become
13 available, and shall, if promising strategies are identified,
14 notify the Congress of the amount of funds that would
15 be required to expand the testing of these strategies in
16 additional types of public housing agencies and housing
17 markets.

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