

November 1, 2006

HOUSING VOUCHERS FUNDED IN IDAHO UNDER PENDING PROPOSALS

Due largely to the flaws in the formula for distributing “Section 8” housing voucher funding, the share of vouchers in use in Idaho has fallen over the past few years, from 98 percent in 2004 to a projected 92 percent in 2006. In other words, **406 vouchers have already been cut** in Idaho over the past two years.

For 2007, Congress will have to choose among three funding approaches that have been put forward. Each provides the same new funding for the program nationally in 2007, but uses a different method for distributing the money among the 2,400 state and local housing agencies. Here is the impact that each of the three formulas would have on Idaho.

- Under the formula in the Section 8 Voucher Reform Act (or SEVRA), a bill passed by the House Financial Services Committee on June 14, 2006, ***all vouchers in use in Idaho in 2006 would be funded***. Moreover, agencies in Idaho would receive enough funding to restore vouchers that have been cut in recent years. Overall, **99 percent of Idaho’s currently authorized vouchers would be funded** under the SEVRA formula.
- The formula in the Senate appropriations bill would also renew funding for all vouchers in use in Idaho in 2006. However, it would not provide agencies in Idaho with enough funding to restore a substantial share of the vouchers that have been cut in recent years. Overall, **93 percent of Idaho’s currently authorized vouchers would be funded** under the Senate appropriations formula.
- Under the formula in the House appropriations bill, 1 housing agencies in Idaho would be forced to cut assistance to 16 low-income families in 2007. **94 percent of Idaho’s currently authorized vouchers would be funded** under the House appropriations formula.

For a description of the pending proposals for distribution of renewal funding to state and local agencies and an analysis of their national impact, see "Fixing the Housing Voucher Formula: A No-Cost Way to Strengthen the Section 8 Program," <http://www.cbpp.org/11-1-06hous.htm>. The paper's Technical Appendix explains the sources and methods for the data in this table.

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Agency Estimates

Housing Agency	HUD Code	Authorized Vouchers as of Jan. 2006	Vouchers in Use in 2006 (Estimated)	Authorized Vouchers Funded in 2007			Vouchers in Use That Would Be Cut Under House Appropriations Bill
				SEVRA	Senate Appropriations Bill	House Appropriations Bill	
Ada Co. HA	id021	762	691	691	705	762	0
Boise City HA	id013	1,142	1,083	1,142	1,104	1,110	0
ID Housing and Finance Assoc.	id901	3,072	2,721	3,072	2,775	2,764	0
Pocatello	id005	560	535	560	545	518	16
Southwestern ID Cooperative HA	id016	852	821	852	837	843	0
Total		6,388	5,850	6,317	5,966	5,997	16

*Agency received new "tenant protection" vouchers from HUD in 2005 to replace demolished public housing units or privately-owned units that no longer receive project-based federal housing assistance. Incomplete information was available to estimate the additional funding due these agencies in 2007 to renew these vouchers under each of the approaches. As a result, estimates for these agencies may be too low, and under the House approach may be too low or too high.

**Agency took over administration of additional vouchers from another agency in 2005 or early 2006. Our estimates may not fully account for the effect of the consolidation on the agency's likely funding in 2007.

November 1, 2006

HOUSING VOUCHERS FUNDED IN ILLINOIS UNDER PENDING PROPOSALS

Due largely to the flaws in the formula for distributing “Section 8” housing voucher funding, the share of vouchers in use in Illinois has fallen over the past few years, from 85 percent in 2004 to a projected 82 percent in 2006. In other words, **3,067 vouchers have already been cut** in Illinois over the past two years.

For 2007, Congress will have to choose among three funding approaches that have been put forward. Each provides the same new funding for the program nationally in 2007, but uses a different method for distributing the money among the 2,400 state and local housing agencies. Here is the impact that each of the three formulas would have on Illinois.

- Under the formula in the Section 8 Voucher Reform Act (or SEVRA), a bill passed by the House Financial Services Committee on June 14, 2006, ***all vouchers in use in Illinois in 2006 would be funded***. Moreover, agencies in Illinois would receive enough funding to restore vouchers that have been cut in recent years. Overall, **97 percent of Illinois’s currently authorized vouchers would be funded** under the SEVRA formula.
- The formula in the Senate appropriations bill would also renew funding for all vouchers in use in Illinois in 2006. Overall, **94 percent of Illinois’s currently authorized vouchers would be funded** under the Senate appropriations formula.
- Under the formula in the House appropriations bill, 32 housing agencies in Illinois would be forced to cut assistance to 346 low-income families in 2007. **Only 92 percent of Illinois’s currently authorized vouchers would be funded** under the House appropriations formula.

For a description of the pending proposals for distribution of renewal funding to state and local agencies and an analysis of their national impact, see "Fixing the Housing Voucher Formula: A No-Cost Way to Strengthen the Section 8 Program," <http://www.cbpp.org/11-1-06hous.htm>. The paper's Technical Appendix explains the sources and methods for the data in this table.

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