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HOUSING VOUCHERS FUNDED IN MARYLAND 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 Maryland has fallen over the past few years, from 86 percent in 2004 to a projected 85 percent in 2006. In other words, **818 vouchers have already been cut** in Maryland 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 Maryland.

- 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 Maryland in 2006 would be funded***. Moreover, agencies in Maryland would receive enough funding to restore vouchers that have been cut in recent years. Overall, **94 percent of Maryland’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 Maryland in 2006. Overall, **91 percent of Maryland’s currently authorized vouchers would be funded** under the Senate appropriations formula.
- Under the formula in the House appropriations bill, 14 housing agencies in Maryland would be forced to cut assistance to 634 low-income families in 2007. **Only 87 percent of Maryland’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	
Annapolis	MD001	200	130	130	133	153	0
Anne Arundel Co.	MD018	1,756	1,575	1,756	1,606	1,509	65
Baltimore City HA*	md002	15,638	10,904	13,312	13,312	12,416	0
Baltimore Co.	MD033	5,714	5,290	5,714	5,395	5,271	19
Calvert Co.	MD022	314	294	314	300	299	0
Carroll Co.	MD032	549	549	549	549	527	22
Cecil Co.	MD029	539	534	539	539	509	24
Charles Co.	MD024	768	672	768	685	693	0
Crisfield	MD009	23	22	23	22	22	0
De Grace	MD012	28	24	28	25	22	2
Easton	MD019	139	139	139	139	135	4
Elkton	MD016	40	38	40	39	37	2
Frederick	MD003	677	549	549	560	618	0
Hagerstown	MD006	884	752	752	767	800	0
Hartford Co.	MD025	991	896	991	914	934	0
Howard Co.	MD023	863	760	863	775	731	29
Md Dept of Housing & Community Development*	MD901	2,169	2,044	2,169	2,084	1,976	68
Montgomery Co.*	MD004	5,669	5,405	5,669	5,513	5,277	128

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				SEVRA	Senate Appropriations Bill	House Appropriations Bill	
Prince George's Co.	MD015	4,552	4,284	4,552	4,369	4,076	208
Queen Anne's County HA	MD034	136	119	119	121	129	0
Rockville	MD007	359	286	359	292	275	11
St. Mary's County HA	MD021	1,263	1,263	1,263	1,263	1,212	51
St. Michael's	MD013	20	14	14	15	16	0
Washington Co.	MD028	498	498	498	498	498	0
Westminster	MD027	289	272	272	278	289	0
Wicomico Co.	MD014	373	249	373	254	258	0
Total		44,451	37,562	41,755	40,446	38,681	634

*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.