

November 1, 2006

## HOUSING VOUCHERS FUNDED IN WASHINGTON 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 Washington has fallen over the past few years, from 95 percent in 2004 to a projected 94 percent in 2006. In other words, **478 vouchers have already been cut** in Washington 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 Washington.

- 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 Washington in 2006 would be funded***. Moreover, agencies in Washington would receive enough funding to restore vouchers that have been cut in recent years. Overall, **100 percent of Washington’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 Washington in 2006. Overall, **98 percent of Washington’s currently authorized vouchers would be funded** under the Senate appropriations formula.
- Under the formula in the House appropriations bill, 14 housing agencies in Washington would be forced to cut assistance to 348 low-income families in 2007. **97 percent of Washington’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.

## 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	
Anacortes	WA010	20	18	20	18	17	1
Asotin County HA	WA017	217	217	217	217	217	0
Bellingham	WA025	1,618	1,618	1,618	1,618	1,618	0
Bremerton HA	WA003	1,059	911	1,059	929	876	35
Clallam County	WA004	399	381	381	389	399	0
Columbia Gorge Housing Authority	WA013	271	260	271	265	254	5
Everett	WA006	2,363	2,259	2,363	2,304	2,363	0
Ferry County Joint HA	WA069	28	23	28	23	22	1
Grant County HA	WA014	237	233	237	237	227	5
Grays Harbor HA	WA018	178	178	178	178	175	3
Island County HA	WA024	274	268	274	273	258	10
Jefferson County HA	WA068	146	118	146	120	114	4
Kalama HA	WA019	27	23	23	24	25	0
Kelso HA	WA020	256	255	256	256	254	1
Kennewick HA	WA012	542	481	481	491	542	0
King County Housing Authority*	wa002	6,500	6,481	6,500	6,500	6,500	0
Kitsap County Consolidated HA	WA036	374	357	374	364	341	15

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				SEVRA	Senate Appropriations Bill	House Appropriations Bill	
Longview HA	WA007	1,110	1,110	1,110	1,110	1,080	30
Mason County HA	WA059	322	268	322	273	273	0
Okanogan County HA	WA071	165	165	165	165	157	8
Pasco HA	WA021	289	283	283	289	289	0
Pierce County HA	WA054	2,633	2,459	2,633	2,508	2,480	0
Renton HA	WA011	314	314	314	314	314	0
Richland	WA065	433	335	335	342	383	0
Seattle*	wa001	8,234	6,837	8,234	8,234	7,841	0
Skagit County	WA061	609	543	609	554	553	0
Snohomish County	WA039	2,956	2,956	2,956	2,956	2,956	0
Spokane HA	WA055	4,585	4,347	4,585	4,433	4,405	0
Tacoma HA	WA005	3,524	3,524	3,524	3,524	3,303	221
Thurston County HA*	WA049	1,871	1,753	1,871	1,787	1,839	0
Vancouver HA*	WA008	1,893	1,776	1,893	1,812	1,887	0
Walla Walla HA	WA057	719	701	719	715	715	0
Wenatchee HA	WA064	449	393	449	401	410	0
Yakima HA	WA042	603	582	603	593	573	9
<b>Total</b>		<b>45,218</b>	<b>42,425</b>	<b>45,031</b>	<b>44,214</b>	<b>43,660</b>	<b>348</b>

\*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.