

November 1, 2006

HOUSING VOUCHERS FUNDED IN VIRGINIA 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 Virginia has fallen over the past few years, from 92 percent in 2004 to a projected 89 percent in 2006. In other words, **1,851 vouchers have already been cut** in Virginia 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 Virginia.

- 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 Virginia in 2006 would be funded***. Moreover, agencies in Virginia would receive enough funding to restore vouchers that have been cut in recent years. Overall, **95 percent of Virginia’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 Virginia in 2006. However, it would not provide agencies in Virginia with enough funding to restore a substantial share of the vouchers that have been cut in recent years. Overall, **90 percent of Virginia’s currently authorized vouchers would be funded** under the Senate appropriations formula.
- Under the formula in the House appropriations bill, 16 housing agencies in Virginia would be forced to cut assistance to 223 low-income families in 2007. **93 percent of Virginia’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	
Abemarle County of Housing*	VA036	429	382	382	390	416	0
Abingdon RHA	VA032	121	119	121	121	117	2
Accomack-Northampton RHA	VA040	538	497	497	507	533	0
Alexandria RHA	VA004	1,722	1,518	1,722	1,548	1,505	12
Arlington County	VA028	1,439	1,432	1,432	1,439	1,439	0
Big Stone Gap RHA	VA038	124	117	124	119	113	4
Briston Redevelopment & HA	VA002	254	254	254	254	254	0
Buckingham Housing Dev. Corp.	VA044	72	66	72	67	61	4
Charlottesville RHA	VA016	341	287	341	293	277	11
Chesapeake RHA	VA012	1,618	1,288	1,618	1,314	1,365	0
Covington RHA	VA037	58	49	58	50	46	2
Danville RHA	VA010	722	711	722	722	693	18
Fairfax County RHA	VA019	3,204	2,970	3,204	3,029	2,957	13
Franklin RHA	VA018	315	276	315	281	279	0
Hampton RHA	VA017	2,403	2,219	2,403	2,263	2,323	0
Harrisonburg RHA	VA014	553	547	547	553	553	0
Hopewell RHA	VA005	247	227	227	231	247	0

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James City County	VA041	154	154	154	154	151	3
Housing							
Lee County RHA	VA034	532	529	532	532	513	15
Loudoun County HA	VA035	688	594	688	606	616	0
Lynchburg RHA	VA013	824	655	824	668	630	25
Marion RHA	VA030	113	105	113	107	101	4
Martinsville RHA	VA045	484	423	423	431	463	0
Newport News RHA	VA003	2,216	1,961	2,216	2,000	2,079	0
Norfolk RHA	VA006	3,411	2,257	2,257	2,302	2,679	0
Norton RHA	VA015	110	92	110	94	96	0
People, Inc. of Southwest Virginia	VA042	91	90	90	91	91	0
Petersburg RHA	VA020	676	676	676	676	676	0
Portsmouth PHA*	VA001	1,856	1,219	1,219	1,243	1,856	0
Prince William County office of Housing	VA046	1,907	1,738	1,907	1,773	1,673	65
Richmond RHA*	VA007	3,112	2,731	3,112	2,785	2,900	0
Roanoke RHA*	VA011	1,510	1,401	1,510	1,429	1,434	0
Scott County RHA	VA031	197	156	156	159	184	0
Staunton RHA*	VA023	221	202	221	206	221	0
Suffolk RHA	VA025	809	661	809	675	634	28
Total Action	VA043	83	67	83	68	64	2

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Against Poverty in Roanoke							
Virginia Beach*	VA039	1,901	1,567	1,567	1,598	1,782	0
Virginia HA*	VA901	9,094	8,792	9,094	8,967	9,094	0
Waynesboro RHA	VA022	431	399	431	407	384	15
Wise County RHA	VA024	751	751	751	751	751	0
Total		45,331	40,178	42,982	40,901	42,252	223

*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.