

Housing Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No.: HB-6436

Title: AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE OPEN CHOICE VOUCHERS PILOT PROGRAM.

Vote Date: 3/9/2021

Vote Action: Joint Favorable

PH Date: 2/18/2021

File No.:

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SPONSORS OF BILL:

Rep. Michael Winkler, District 56

Rep. Jason Rojas, District 9

REASONS FOR BILL:

This bill is meant help parents move to the higher opportunity communities in which their child is educated by providing ten additional housing vouchers per year for two years.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

Executive Director of the Commission On Human Rights Tanya Hughes- **Supports** this bill because it would allow children and families to be a part of the community in which they are being educated.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

House Majority Leader Rep. Jason Rojas- **Supports** this bill because it will help correct the historic racial inequities in housing by allowing families who live in areas with limited educational opportunity to attend higher resource schools.

Partnership For Strong Communities Policy Director Sean Ghio- **Supports** this bill because it would enable families to connect with the community their child is being educated and alleviate issues such as long bus rides and inability to participate in after school activities.

Director of the CREC Kristina Jordan- **Supports** this bill because it would help families move to higher opportunity communities.

Executive Director of the CFHC Erin Kemple- **Supports** this bill because it would give freedom, mobility, and real housing choice to Housing Choice Voucher holders while also promoting integration. The organization believes that expanded housing authority jurisdiction

would reduce the administrative barriers to housing choice for voucher holders and reduce concentrated poverty.

Anika Lemar- **Supports** this bill because it would advance housing equity

Raphael Podolsky of Connecticut Legal Services Advancing Justice- **Supports** this bill because it would give low-income families and opportunity to relocate to the community in which their child is being educated.

Director of the CEA Ray Rossomando- **Supports** this bill because it would offer innovative incentives toward promoting diverse affordable housing options

Director of Fairfield County's Center For Housing Opportunity Christie Stewart- **Supports** this bill because it would enable families to connect with the community their child is being educated and alleviate issues such as long bus rides and inability to participate in after school activities.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

None

Reported by: Eddie Aledia

Date: 3/22/21