



General Assembly

February Session, 2024

Raised Bill No. 142

LCO No. 597



Referred to Committee on HOUSING

Introduced by:
(HSG)

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A HOUSING AUTHORITY RESIDENT QUALITY OF LIFE IMPROVEMENT GRANT PROGRAM AND A HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER TASK FORCE.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) As used in this section,
2 "resident advisory board" means any board established by a housing
3 authority pursuant to 42 USC 1437c-1(e).

4 (b) There is established a housing authority resident quality of life
5 improvement grant program to provide funds to housing authorities for
6 the purpose of making improvements to residential buildings managed
7 by an authority as may be recommended by such housing authority's
8 resident advisory board. The grant program shall be administered by
9 the Department of Housing.

10 (c) The Commissioner of Housing shall, within available
11 appropriations, award grants under such grant program based on
12 applications submitted and evaluated as provided in this section. The
13 amount of grants awarded shall not exceed two hundred fifty thousand
14 dollars in the aggregate per fiscal year.

15 (d) The commissioner shall commence accepting applications for the
16 grant program established pursuant to this section not later than
17 October 1, 2024. Each housing authority may apply for a grant pursuant
18 to this section by submitting an application to the department in a
19 manner prescribed by the commissioner. Grants made under this
20 section shall be used to provide an ongoing benefit, as determined by
21 the commissioner, for residents of a residential building.

22 (e) The commissioner may adopt regulations, in accordance with the
23 provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes, to carry out the
24 provisions of this section.

25 *Sec. 2. (Effective from passage)* (a) There is established a task force to
26 study the federal Housing Choice Voucher Program, 42 USC 1437f(o),
27 and its implementation in the state. Such study shall include, but need
28 not be limited to, an evaluation concerning any disparate impacts said
29 program has on the development of at-risk children and youth or
30 families.

31 (b) The task force shall consist of the following members:

32 (1) The chairpersons and ranking members of the joint standing
33 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
34 relating to housing, or their designees;

35 (2) One appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives;

36 (3) One appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate;

37 (4) One appointed by the majority leader of the House of
38 Representatives;

39 (5) One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate;

40 (6) Two appointed by the minority leader of the Senate; and

41 (7) Two appointed by the minority leader of the House of
42 Representatives.

43 (c) Any member of the task force appointed under subsection (b) of
 44 this section may be a member of the General Assembly. All initial
 45 appointments to the task force shall be made not later than thirty days
 46 after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall be filled by the
 47 appointing authority.

48 (d) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the minority
 49 leader of the Senate shall each select a chairperson from among the
 50 members of the task force. Such chairpersons shall schedule the first
 51 meeting of the task force, which shall be held not later than sixty days
 52 after the effective date of this section.

53 (e) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the
 54 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to housing
 55 shall serve as administrative staff of the task force.

56 (f) Not later than January 16, 2025, the task force shall submit a report
 57 on its findings and recommendations regarding the implementation of
 58 the federal Housing Choice Voucher Program in the state to the joint
 59 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
 60 matters relating to housing, in accordance with the provisions of section
 61 11-4a of the general statutes, and to the state's congressional delegation.
 62 The task force shall terminate on the date that it submits such report or
 63 January 16, 2025, whichever is later.

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| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: | | |
| Section 1 | <i>from passage</i> | New section |
| Sec. 2 | <i>from passage</i> | New section |

Statement of Purpose:

To establish (1) a resident quality of life improvement grant program, and (2) a housing choice voucher task force.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]