



HOUSE COMMITTEE *on* APPROPRIATIONS

RANKING MEMBER ROSA DeLAURO

Access to Safe, Affordable Housing

Housing Provisions in the Fiscal Year 2023 Consolidated Appropriations Act

Democrats in Congress have been fighting to secure transformative federal investments to help fight inflation, lower the cost of living, support working families, create American jobs, and combat climate change.

In December 2022, Democrats in Congress secured transformative investments in the 2023 federal funding bill that help the middle class, working families, small businesses, and the vulnerable who work hard. Instead of catering to the biggest corporations and billionaires, we are tackling some of our nation's biggest challenges with major investments to increase access to safe, affordable housing.

Overall, the 2023 funding bill provides more than \$125.5 billion for housing across the United States. Below you will find a summary of the provisions included in this historic bill to boost homeownership and other housing opportunities.

Transportation-Housing & Urban Development

The 2023 funding bill for the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD):

Includes comprehensive investments to reduce homelessness.

- Provides \$3.6 billion for Homeless Assistance Grants, \$420 million above the fiscal year 2022 enacted level. This includes:
 - \$3.1 billion for Continuum of Care grants;
 - \$290 million for Emergency Solutions Grants;
 - \$52 million to provide services for survivors of domestic violence;
 - \$107 million to comprehensively serve youth experiencing homelessness; and
 - \$75 million for new construction, acquisition, or rehabilitation of new permanent supportive housing to expand options for people experiencing homelessness.
- \$50 million to for new vouchers to expand housing assistance to nearly 12,000 low-income families, including individuals and families experiencing or at risk of homelessness, including veterans and survivors of domestic violence, in addition to the 25,000 new vouchers provided in fiscal year 2022.
- An additional \$50 million to address homelessness among veterans in the Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) program and \$7.5 million to support homeless Native American veterans through the Tribal HUD-VASH program.

- Provides \$4 million for the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH).

Expands access to affordable housing.

- Support the resiliency and preservation of manufactured housing and manufactured housing communities, home to more than 20 million low-income and working families living in America, under the new Preservation and Reinvestment Initiative for Community Enhancement (PRICE) program, providing \$225 million. In addition, up to \$2.5 million is for technical assistance for recipients of grants under the PRICE program, to strengthen urban, rural communities, Tribal communities, and areas prone to natural disasters.
- Establishes a new competitive grant program and provides \$85 million to reward communities that have made progress on improving inclusionary zoning practices, land use policies, and housing infrastructure that will ultimately increase the supply of affordable housing.
- Provides \$350 million for the Choice Neighborhoods Initiative to invest in local strategies that transform neighborhoods and distressed low-income housing through a community-driven neighborhood revitalization process.
- Invests \$1.5 billion for the HOME Investment Partnerships Program to help states and local governments expand affordable and workforce housing by acquiring, rehabilitating, or constructing new housing, or to support eligible families with rental assistance.
- Supports low-income seniors by providing \$1 billion for Housing for the Elderly, including \$25 million to expand housing units to intergenerational families, and \$110 million to build nearly 1,120 new affordable housing units.
- Provides \$360 million for Housing for Persons with Disabilities, which includes \$148.3 million to increase the availability of affordable housing for persons with disabilities through the construction of approximately 1,600 new housing units for persons with disabilities.
- Improves living conditions and housing options in tribal communities by investing \$787 million in Native American Housing Block Grants Formula program, \$150 million in Native American Housing Block Grants Competitive program, and \$75 million in Indian Community Development Block Grant program. In addition, it addresses the needs of Native Hawaiians by providing \$22.3 million through the Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant program.

Protects vulnerable populations.

- \$20 million for legal assistance in eviction proceedings to assist low-income tenants at risk of or facing eviction.
- \$499 million for Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS, \$49 million above the FY2022 enacted level and \$44 million above the budget request.
- An increase of \$16 million in supportive services for HUD-assisted households by providing \$175 million for Self-Sufficiency Programs to help low-income individuals and families enhance job skills, increase earnings, and improve their economic security.
- Invests \$21 million to support residents with tenant organizing activities, access to community services, and civic engagement activities.
- More than \$10 million for critical research in HUD's Policy Development and Research, which seeks ways to improve the efficiency, effectiveness, and equity of the Department's programs.

- Provides \$5 million in dedicated training and technical assistance to support the implementation of the Violence Against Women Act, and an additional \$2.5 million to provide technical assistance to communities to develop recovery housing for substance use disorder intervention.
- \$10 million for cooperative agreements and research partnerships with historically Black colleges and universities and Hispanic serving institutions.
- \$5 million for competitive grants at HUD to non-profit or private sector organizations to provide technical assistance to local governments or non-profit organizations that serve distressed areas, prioritizing areas of persistent poverty.
- \$86.4 million in Fair Housing Activities to combat housing discrimination.

Improves health and safety.

- \$410 million for the Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes, \$10 million above the budget request, including:
 - \$85 million for the Healthy Homes Initiative, to address health and safety hazards in the home, such as carbon monoxide, asthma, noise, mold, and sources of fires;
 - \$25 million to continue to conduct inspections for lead in all housing choice voucher units built before 1978; and
 - \$5 million to continue a radon testing and mitigation resident safety demonstration program.
- \$8.5 billion for the Public Housing Fund, \$62.5 million above the FY2022 enacted level, which includes:
 - \$3.2 billion for the capital fund formula for the development, financing, and modernization of public housing;
 - \$50 million for emergency capital needs, including safety and security measures; and
 - \$65 million to reduce health hazards in public housing, such as lead-based paint, carbon monoxide, radon, mold, and fire safety.

Military Construction & Veterans Affairs

Department of Defense

- The fiscal year 2023 bill provides \$2 billion for Family Housing Construction, which is \$562.8 million above the 2022 enacted level and \$30 million above the budget request. This funding not only invests in the construction of safe, modernized housing for our servicemembers and their families but also increases funding for oversight of military privatized housing providers.

Department of Veterans Affairs

The bill also includes:

- \$2.7 billion is provided for VA's programs to fight homelessness and provide services to unhoused veterans. As the most recent homelessness survey showed, on a given night in

January 2021, an estimated 19,750 veterans were experiencing homelessness. Within this total:

- \$558 million is for case management within the Housing and Urban Development-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) program, which pairs case management and supportive services from VA with a housing voucher from HUD. These services are targeted to assist HUD-VASH veteran recipients with obtaining and sustaining permanent housing while recovering from physical and mental health problems, substance use disorders, and functional concerns contributing to or resulting from homelessness.
 - \$276 million is for the Grant and Per Diem program, which supports approximately 12,800 transitional housing beds nationwide and helps support the work of local communities in assisting homeless veterans.
 - \$229 million is for the Health Care for Homeless Veterans program, which engages and connects homeless veterans with health care and other needed services.
 - \$750 million is for the Supportive Services for Low-Income Veterans and Families program, which is designed to rapidly re-house homeless veteran families and prevent homelessness for those at imminent risk due to a housing crisis.
 - \$81 million is for the Veterans Justice Outreach Homeless Prevention program, which facilitates access to VA health care and other services for veterans who are involved with the criminal justice system, and therefore face heightened risks of homelessness, as well as other outcomes like suicide and opioid-related overdose. This also includes \$13 million for a new program to help veterans access legal services, including for matters such as landlord/tenant disputes and other matters that can present barriers to housing stability.
- The fiscal year 2023 bill also provides increased investments in diverse approaches to fighting homelessness, including support for non-traditional efforts, such as tiny homes for veterans, support for the National Center on Homelessness Among Veterans, and sustainment of VA's Enhanced-Use Lease program, which supports public-private partnerships that utilize vacant or underutilized VA properties to provide supportive housing for veterans that are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

Agriculture-Rural Development-FDA

The fiscal year 2023 federal funding package provides:

- Nearly \$32 billion in lending to create homeownership opportunities for lower-income families in rural areas to help acquire safe and sanitary housing.
- Nearly \$1.5 billion in rental assistance programs for rural families and the elderly.
- Over \$550 million in multifamily properties to construct or preserve affordable housing units.
- Over \$75 million in homeownership repair and preservation grants to enable families to make improvements to their homes.

Interior-Environment

This fiscal year 2023 bill will address the housing crisis in Indian country for individual Native Americans as well as for employees to assist in recruitment and retention. The funding for the Department of the Interior includes:

- \$12 million in the Operation of Indian Programs to repair and rehabilitate housing for Native Americans.
- \$5 million for Bureau of Indian Affairs Construction for housing for public safety and justice officials and other employees in Indian country.
- \$15.1 million in Bureau of Indian Education- Education Construction to provide housing for Bureau of Indian Education school employees.
- \$11 million in Indian Health Facilities for health employees in Indian country.
- \$8 million for National Park Service employee housing.

Energy & Water Development

The fiscal year 2023 bill includes \$366 million for Weatherization within Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, an increase of \$32 million above fiscal year 2022. This funding for the Department of Energy will increase the energy efficiency of homes occupied by low-income households.

Labor-HHS-Education

This bill includes:

- \$66 million, an increase of \$2 million over fiscal year 2022 levels, for the Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH) program at the Substance Use And Mental Health Administration (SAMHSA).
- \$34 million, an increase of \$3 million over fiscal year 2022 levels, for the Homeless Prevention Programs at SAMHSA.

State and Foreign Operations

The fiscal year 2023 bill includes \$700,000 under International Organization and Programs Account to support the mission of UN HABITAT.

Defense

The final fiscal year 2023 bill provides an additional \$1.2 billion above the President's request for the basic allowance for housing for active-duty military personnel to offset the dramatic rise in rent costs. This is an 11% increase over fiscal year 2022 levels.