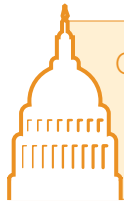


Bipartisan Housing Bill Would Cut Costs, Reduce Homelessness, and Improve Access to High-Opportunity Neighborhoods



The Housing Opportunities Through Modernization Act (H.R. 3700) streamlines and reforms federal housing programs to cut costs, encourage work, reduce homelessness, improve families' access to high-opportunity areas, and improve public housing residents' quality of life.

Has Broad Bipartisan Support



On February 2, 2016, the House of Representatives passed the **Housing Opportunities Through Modernization Act** by a unanimous 427-0 vote.

Passed unanimously in the House and praised by members of both parties, including the House Financial Services Committee's top Republican and Democrat.

Saves Money for Housing Agencies, Owners, and Taxpayers

Cuts program costs by more than \$300 million over 5 years, according to the Congressional Budget Office. (Policymakers set housing program spending each year through appropriations legislation, but the bill's savings would enable them to continue helping the current number of families at a lower cost or help more families for the same amount of funding.)

Cuts administrative burdens for state and local housing agencies and private owners of assisted units.

Encourages Work

Improves work incentives by delaying rent increases for families when their earnings rise. Most able-bodied recipients of rental assistance already work.

Reduces Homelessness

Gives housing agencies more flexibility to help the homeless — as well as veterans, seniors, and people with disabilities — by using project-based vouchers and partnering with social service agencies to provide supportive services. Supportive housing reduces homelessness and cuts costs in other programs like health care and corrections, research shows.

Strengthens voucher assistance for former foster children, who face a high risk of homelessness.

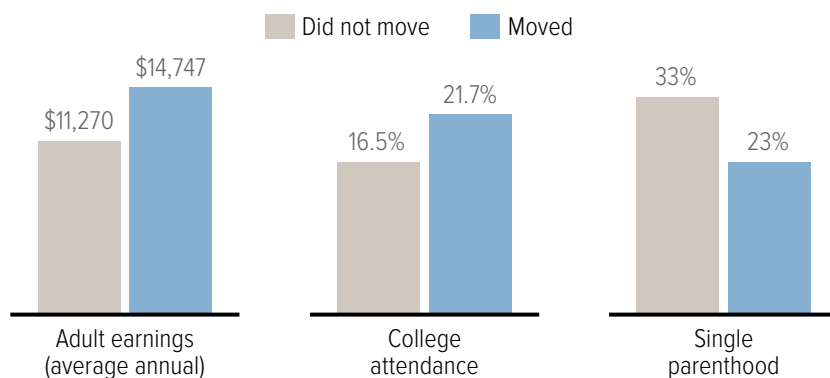
Streamlines and improves housing inspection rules to get vulnerable families into homes more quickly, encourage owners to accept vouchers, and protect families from becoming homeless if their unit falls into disrepair.

Helps Families Move to Areas of Opportunity

Improves low-income families' access to areas with low poverty and crime and high-performing schools by enabling housing agencies to use project-based vouchers where it's difficult to use tenant-based vouchers.

Research shows that using a voucher to move to a low-poverty neighborhood helps children succeed in school and later in adulthood (see chart); it also improves adults' mental and physical health.

Moving with Voucher to Lower-Poverty Neighborhoods While Young Children Improves Key Adult Outcomes



Improves Quality of Life for Public Housing Residents

Gives housing agencies greater flexibility to use public housing funds for needed renovations. Due to long-term underfunding, the nation's public housing developments have accumulated more than \$26 billion in unmet renovation needs, which expose low-income families to deteriorating living conditions and safety hazards.

For more information, see CBPP, "The Housing Opportunities Through Modernization Act (H.R. 3700)," <http://www.cbpp.org/the-housing-opportunities-through-modernization-act-hr-3700>.

Figure note: Outcomes are for children up to age 13 at the time of random assignment under the Moving to Opportunity (MTO) demonstration. "Moved" refers to families that used MTO vouchers to relocate to neighborhoods where fewer than 10 percent of residents were poor. "Did not move" refers to control group families that did not receive MTO vouchers.

Figure source: Chetty *et al.*, "The Effects of Exposure to Better Neighborhoods on Children: New Evidence from the Moving to Opportunity Experiment," National Bureau of Economic Research, Working Paper #21156, May 2015.