

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. _____

To authorize a new type of housing choice voucher to help achieve the goals of ending homelessness among families with children, increasing housing opportunities, and improving life outcomes of poor children.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself and Mr. YOUNG) introduced the following bill;
which was read twice and referred to the Committee on

A BILL

To authorize a new type of housing choice voucher to help achieve the goals of ending homelessness among families with children, increasing housing opportunities, and improving life outcomes of poor children.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Family Stability and
5 Opportunity Vouchers Act of 2026”.

1 **SEC. 2. FAMILY STABILITY AND OPPORTUNITY VOUCHERS.**

2 Section 8(o) of the United States Housing Act of
3 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)) is amended by adding at the
4 end the following:

5 “(23) FAMILY STABILITY AND OPPORTUNITY
6 VOUCHERS.—

7 “(A) DEFINITIONS.—In this paragraph:

8 “(i) AREA OF CONCENTRATED POV-
9 ERTY.—The term ‘area of concentrated
10 poverty’ means a census tract in which the
11 poverty rate is not less than 30 percent, as
12 most recently determined by the Bureau of
13 the Census.

14 “(ii) AT RISK OF HOMELESSNESS.—
15 The term ‘at risk of homelessness’ has the
16 meaning given the term in section 401 of
17 the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance
18 Act (42 U.S.C. 11360).

19 “(iii) ELIGIBLE FAMILY.—The term
20 ‘eligible family’ means a family that—

21 “(I)(aa) will welcome a minor
22 child through birth or adoption in the
23 next 300 days; or

24 “(bb) has not less than 1 child
25 under the age of 6;

1 “(II) meets all applicable eligi-
2 bility requirements under this sub-
3 section; and

4 “(III) is—

5 “(aa) homeless;

6 “(bb) unstably housed;

7 “(cc) living in an area of
8 concentrated poverty; or

9 “(dd) at risk of displace-
10 ment from—

11 “(AA) an opportunity
12 area for children; or

13 “(BB) an area rapidly
14 transitioning to become an
15 opportunity area for chil-
16 dren.

17 “(iv) HIGH-PERFORMING SCHOOL.—
18 The term ‘high-performing school’ shall
19 have the meaning given the term by the
20 Secretary, using the best available evi-
21 dence.

22 “(v) HOMELESS.—The term ‘home-
23 less’ has the meaning given the term in
24 section 103 of the McKinney-Vento Home-
25 less Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11302).

1 “(vi) OPPORTUNITY AREA FOR CHIL-
2 DREN.—The term ‘opportunity area for
3 children’ shall have the meaning given the
4 term by the Secretary, using the best avail-
5 able evidence.

6 “(vii) UNSTABLY HOUSED.—The term
7 ‘unstably housed’, with respect to a family,
8 means a family who—

9 “(I) is at risk of homelessness;

10 “(II) has moved not less than
11 twice during the 12-month period end-
12 ing on the date on which a public
13 housing agency selects the family
14 from a waiting list to receive assist-
15 ance under this paragraph;

16 “(III) is living in a unit not ac-
17 cessible to a family member with a
18 disability;

19 “(IV) is experiencing trauma or a
20 lack of safety relating to, or fleeing or
21 attempting to flee, domestic violence,
22 dating violence, sexual assault, stalk-
23 ing, or another dangerous, traumatic,
24 or life-threatening condition relating
25 to violence against a member of the

1 family or an individual in the housing
2 situation of the family, including an
3 instance in which the health and safe-
4 ty of a child is jeopardized; or

5 “(V) is living in housing condi-
6 tions that are dangerous or life-
7 threatening.

8 “(B) COMPETITIVE AWARD.—

9 “(i) IN GENERAL.—In each fiscal year
10 for which amounts are authorized to be ap-
11 propriated under subparagraph (F), the
12 Secretary shall provide assistance to public
13 housing agencies on a competitive basis to
14 be used for—

15 “(I) incremental vouchers for eli-
16 gible families; and

17 “(II) additional fees for the cost
18 to the public housing agencies of pro-
19 viding mobility-related services to eli-
20 gible families.

21 “(ii) SELECTION.—For the second fis-
22 cal year in which the Secretary provides
23 assistance under this paragraph, and each
24 fiscal year thereafter, in selecting public
25 housing agencies to receive assistance

1 under this paragraph, the Secretary
2 shall—

3 “(I) consider the performance of
4 public housing agencies in imple-
5 menting this paragraph; and

6 “(II) give preference to public
7 housing agencies that partner with or-
8 ganizations that provide home visiting
9 services, such as the services author-
10 ized under section 511 of the Social
11 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 711) or lo-
12 cally funded initiatives, if those serv-
13 ices are available in the service area of
14 the public housing agency.

15 “(C) SERVICES REQUIRED TO BE OFFERED
16 TO FAMILIES RECEIVING VOUCHERS.—

17 “(i) IN GENERAL.—A public housing
18 agency that receives assistance under this
19 paragraph—

20 “(I) shall offer, to each eligible
21 family that the agency selects to re-
22 ceive a voucher, mobility-related serv-
23 ices to help the family move to an op-
24 portunity area for children with access
25 to—

1 “(aa) a high-performing
2 school; or

3 “(bb) high-quality childcare
4 and early education;

5 “(II) may not require an eligible
6 family to participate in the mobility-
7 related services described in subclause
8 (I) as a condition of receipt of a
9 voucher; and

10 “(III) shall adopt mobility-related
11 policies, to be specified by the Sec-
12 retary.

13 “(ii) MINIMUM ASSORTMENT OF SERV-
14 ICES AND POLICIES.—The Secretary shall
15 establish a minimum assortment of types
16 of mobility-related services that a public
17 housing agency shall offer, and mobility-re-
18 lated policies that a public housing agency
19 shall adopt, under clause (i) based on
20 promising practices and evidence of the ef-
21 fectiveness of the services and policies.

22 “(iii) SPECIFIC SERVICES.—The types
23 of mobility-related services required to be
24 offered under clause (i)—

1 “(I) shall include a customized
2 approach to enable a successful tran-
3 sition to opportunity areas for chil-
4 dren; and

5 “(II) may include counseling and
6 continued supportive services for fami-
7 lies.

8 “(iv) OPPORTUNITY AREAS FOR CHIL-
9 DREN; HIGH-PERFORMING SCHOOLS; HIGH-
10 QUALITY CHILD CARE AND EARLY EDU-
11 CATION.—The Secretary shall establish cri-
12 teria for areas, schools, and child care and
13 early education to qualify as opportunity
14 areas for children, high-performing schools,
15 and high-quality child care and early edu-
16 cation, respectively.

17 “(v) MANNER OF PROVIDING SERV-
18 ICES.—A public housing agency may pro-
19 vide mobility-related services as required
20 under clause (i) directly or through a local
21 partnership or contract.

22 “(D) OTHER REQUIREMENTS.—

23 “(i) TURNOVER.—

24 “(I) IN GENERAL.—Upon turn-
25 over of a voucher issued by a public

1 housing agency using assistance re-
2 ceived under this paragraph, the pub-
3 lic housing agency shall issue the
4 voucher to another eligible family
5 under this paragraph.

6 “(II) MOBILITY SERVICES.—A
7 public housing agency turning over a
8 voucher as described in subclause (I)
9 shall provide any available mobility
10 services to the eligible family receiving
11 the voucher.

12 “(ii) RECAPTURE AND REALLOCATION
13 BY SECRETARY.—

14 “(I) IN GENERAL.—If a public
15 housing agency that receives assist-
16 ance to be used for vouchers and fees
17 under this paragraph fails to obligate
18 any such assistance within a reason-
19 able period as determined by the Sec-
20 retary, the Secretary may recapture
21 and reallocate the unobligated assist-
22 ance to other public housing agencies
23 pursuant to rules issued by the Sec-
24 retary.

1 “(II) CONSULTATION.—In
2 issuing the rules under subclause (I),
3 the Secretary shall make reasonable
4 efforts to consult with public housing
5 agencies.

6 “(E) IMPLEMENTATION.—

7 “(i) DEFINITIONS.—Not later than
8 180 days after the date of enactment of
9 this paragraph, the Secretary shall publish
10 a notice for public comment in the Federal
11 Register that includes any definitions or
12 other specifications required or authorized
13 under this paragraph.

14 “(ii) ALLOCATION OF FUNDING.—

15 “(I) INITIAL YEAR.—For the
16 first fiscal year for which amounts are
17 appropriated to be provided to public
18 housing agencies for incremental
19 vouchers under this paragraph, the
20 Secretary shall allocate the amounts
21 to public housing agencies not later
22 than 2 years after the date on which
23 the amounts are appropriated.

24 “(II) SUBSEQUENT YEARS.—For
25 any fiscal year after the fiscal year de-

1 scribed in subclause (I), the Secretary
2 shall allocate amounts to public hous-
3 ing agencies for incremental vouchers
4 under this paragraph not later than
5 180 days after the date on which the
6 amounts are appropriated.

7 “(F) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIA-
8 TIONS.—There are authorized to be appro-
9 priated to the Secretary for each of fiscal years
10 2027 through 2032 such sums as may be nec-
11 essary to provide assistance to public housing
12 agencies under this paragraph to be used for—

13 “(i) not more than 50,000 incre-
14 mental vouchers each fiscal year, as de-
15 scribed in subparagraph (B)(i)(I); and

16 “(ii) fees for the cost of administering
17 the incremental vouchers described in sub-
18 paragraph (B)(i)(I) and other mobility-re-
19 lated expenses.”.