

S 2684

Section 8 Voucher Reform Act of 2008

Congress: 110 (2007–2009, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Housing and Community Development

Introduced: Mar 3, 2008

Current Status: Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Senate Subcommittee on Housing, Transportation and

Latest Action: Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Senate Subcommittee on Housing, Transportation and Community Development. Hearings held. (Apr 16, 2008)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/110th-congress/senate-bill/2684>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Dodd, Christopher J. [D-CT]

Party: Democratic • State: CT • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors (10 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]	D · OH		Mar 3, 2008
Sen. Menendez, Robert [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Mar 3, 2008
Sen. Reed, Jack [D-RI]	D · RI		Mar 3, 2008
Sen. Schumer, Charles E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Mar 3, 2008
Sen. Boxer, Barbara [D-CA]	D · CA		Mar 10, 2008
Sen. Kennedy, Edward M. [D-MA]	D · MA		Apr 1, 2008
Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]	D · CA		Apr 14, 2008
Sen. Collins, Susan M. [R-ME]	R · ME		Apr 22, 2008
Sen. Snowe, Olympia J. [R-ME]	R · ME		Apr 22, 2008
Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]	I · VT		May 22, 2008

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee	Senate	Hearings By (subcommittee)	Apr 16, 2008

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Housing and Community Development

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
110 HR 1851	Related bill	Jul 16, 2007: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

Section 8 Voucher Reform Act of 2008 - Amends the United States Housing Act of 1937 to revise requirements for public housing agency (PHA) inspections of each dwelling unit for which a housing assistance payment contract is established. Requires an initial inspection before any assistance payment is made. Allows such payments if failure to meet standards is a result only of non-life threatening conditions.

Permits a PHA, in the case of projects receiving certain federal housing subsidies, to authorize occupancy before completion of an initial inspection.

Requires biennial inspections (currently annual inspections) to determine compliance. Provides, upon a family's request, for interim inspections.

Prescribes requirements for reviews and calculation of family income.

Prescribes eligibility criteria for assistance based upon assets and income.

Revises requirements governing: (1) assistance to low-income working families; (2) tenant-based contract renewals; (3) administrative fees; and (4) the home ownership downpayment grant program.

Authorizes a PHA to report to certain consumer reporting agencies information regarding the past rent payment history of a family receiving housing choice vouchers.

Directs the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to establish standards and procedures for assessing PHA performance in carrying out the programs for tenant-based rental assistance and for homeownership assistance, including biennial assessments.

Revises the rent calculation for housing assistance payment contracts.

Directs the Secretary to endeavor to define market areas.

Limits a PHA's elective applicant screening.

Revises requirements for enhanced voucher assistance.

Authorizes the Secretary to provide preservation project-based voucher assistance in lieu of enhanced voucher assistance upon request of the owner of the multifamily housing project.

Authorizes the Secretary to enter into agreements with the Social Security Administration and the Secretary of Health and Human Services to permit HUD participation in certain state demonstration programs providing for persons with significant disabilities to be employed and to continue to receive certain federal and state benefits.

Requires the Comptroller General to identify and report to Congress on obstacles to using vouchers in federally subsidized housing projects.

Requires state agencies to furnish to the Secretary certain data on tenants in low-income housing projects receiving tax credits under the Internal Revenue Code.

Authorizes a PHA to use subsidy payments otherwise due the owner to pay for continued utility service to avoid hardship

to program participants.

Requires the Secretary to provide access to HUD programs for persons with limited English proficiency.

Actions Timeline

- **Apr 16, 2008:** Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Senate Subcommittee on Housing, Transportation and Community Development. Hearings held.
- **Mar 3, 2008:** Introduced in Senate
- **Mar 3, 2008:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S1469-1470, S1480-1482)
- **Mar 3, 2008:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (text of measure as introduced: CR S1470-1480)