

HR 403

Homes for Heroes Act of 2009

Congress: 111 (2009–2011, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: Jan 9, 2009

Current Status: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

Latest Action: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (Jun 17, 2009)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/111th-congress/house-bill/403>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Green, Al [D-TX-9]

Party: Democratic • **State:** TX • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (41 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Michaud, Michael H. [D-ME-2]	D · ME		Jan 9, 2009
Del. Bordallo, Madeleine Z. [D-GU-At Large]	D · GU		Mar 23, 2009
Rep. Brown-Waite, Ginny [R-FL-5]	R · FL		Mar 23, 2009
Rep. Ellison, Keith [D-MN-5]	D · MN		Mar 23, 2009
Rep. Frank, Barney [D-MA-4]	D · MA		Mar 23, 2009
Rep. Grijalva, Raúl M. [D-AZ-7]	D · AZ		Mar 23, 2009
Rep. Gutierrez, Luis V. [D-IL-4]	D · IL		Mar 23, 2009
Rep. Murphy, Christopher [D-CT-5]	D · CT		Mar 23, 2009
Rep. Rodriguez, Ciro D. [D-TX-23]	D · TX		Mar 23, 2009
Rep. Sestak, Joe [D-PA-7]	D · PA		Mar 23, 2009
Rep. Sutton, Betty [D-OH-13]	D · OH		Mar 23, 2009
Rep. Wexler, Robert [D-FL-19]	D · FL		Mar 23, 2009
Rep. Bishop, Timothy H. [D-NY-1]	D · NY		Mar 30, 2009
Rep. Blumenauer, Earl [D-OR-3]	D · OR		Mar 30, 2009
Rep. Conyers, John, Jr. [D-MI-14]	D · MI		Mar 30, 2009
Rep. Giffords, Gabrielle [D-AZ-8]	D · AZ		Mar 30, 2009
Rep. McMahon, Michael E. [D-NY-13]	D · NY		Mar 30, 2009
Rep. Schakowsky, Janice D. [D-IL-9]	D · IL		Mar 30, 2009
Rep. Stark, Fortney Pete [D-CA-13]	D · CA		Mar 30, 2009
Rep. Van Hollen, Chris [D-MD-8]	D · MD		Mar 30, 2009
Rep. Cleaver, Emanuel [D-MO-5]	D · MO		Apr 21, 2009
Rep. Courtney, Joe [D-CT-2]	D · CT		Apr 21, 2009
Rep. Kaptur, Marcy [D-OH-9]	D · OH		Apr 21, 2009
Rep. Brown, Corrine [D-FL-3]	D · FL		Apr 28, 2009
Rep. Filner, Bob [D-CA-51]	D · CA		Apr 28, 2009
Rep. Kennedy, Patrick J. [D-RI-1]	D · RI		Apr 28, 2009
Rep. Scott, Robert C. "Bobby" [D-VA-3]	D · VA		Apr 28, 2009
Rep. Serrano, Jose E. [D-NY-16]	D · NY		Apr 28, 2009
Rep. Carson, Andre [D-IN-7]	D · IN		May 21, 2009
Rep. Connolly, Gerald E. [D-VA-11]	D · VA		May 21, 2009
Rep. Costa, Jim [D-CA-20]	D · CA		May 21, 2009
Rep. Green, Gene [D-TX-29]	D · TX		May 21, 2009
Rep. Hall, John J. [D-NY-19]	D · NY		May 21, 2009
Rep. Maloney, Carolyn B. [D-NY-14]	D · NY		May 21, 2009
Rep. McGovern, James P. [D-MA-3]	D · MA		May 21, 2009
Del. Sablan, Gregorio Kilili Camacho [D-MP-At Large]	D · MP		Jun 9, 2009
Rep. Hirono, Mazie K. [D-HI-2]	D · HI		Jun 9, 2009
Rep. Lee, Barbara [D-CA-9]	D · CA		Jun 9, 2009
Rep. Meek, Kendrick B. [D-FL-17]	D · FL		Jun 9, 2009
Rep. Baca, Joe [D-CA-43]	D · CA		Jun 12, 2009
Rep. DeLauro, Rosa L. [D-CT-3]	D · CT		Jun 12, 2009

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jun 17, 2009
Financial Services Committee	House	Referred To	Jan 9, 2009
Ways and Means Committee	House	Referred To	Jan 9, 2009

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
111 S 1160	Related bill	Jun 1, 2009: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

(This measure has not been amended since it was introduced. The summary has been expanded because action occurred on the measure.)

Homes for Heroes Act of 2009 - (Sec. 2) Amends the Department of Housing and Urban Development Act to establish in the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) a Special Assistant for Veterans Affairs to: (1) ensure veteran access to HUD housing and homeless assistance programs; (2) coordinate all HUD programs and activities relating to veterans; and (3) serve as a HUD liaison with the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA).

(Sec. 3) Directs the HUD Secretary to provide assistance in the form of planning grants, capital advances, and project rental assistance to private nonprofit organizations and consumer cooperatives to expand the supply of supportive housing for very low-income veteran families (that is, families with incomes not exceeding 50% of the area median income).

Prescribes a formula for such a family's rent contribution for a dwelling unit assisted under this Act.

Allows the families to occupy such units for at least 15 years.

Limits a project rental assistance contract to an initial 60-month term.

Authorizes the Secretary, subject only to the availability of appropriations, to renew the contract for 10 consecutive one-year terms, beginning upon the expiration of such 60-month period.

Requires the Secretary to establish selection criteria for such assistance, based in part upon: (1) the extent to which the proposed housing design will meet the service-connected disability needs of such families; and (2) a preference in such selection for applications proposing housing reserved for such families who are homeless.

Directs the Secretary, in issuing a capital advance for projects, to delegate review and processing of such projects to a state or local housing agency that: (1) is in geographic proximity to the property; (2) has demonstrated experience in and capacity for underwriting multifamily housing loans that provide housing and supportive services; (3) may or may not be providing low-income housing tax credits in combination with such capital advance; and (4) agrees to issue a firm commitment within 12 months of delegation.

Authorizes the Secretary to retain such processing authority if no state or local housing agency has applied to provide it or entered into an agreement with the Secretary to serve as a delegated processing agency.

Allows such agencies to: (1) assess a reasonable fee to be included in the capital advance amounts; and (2) recommend project rental assistance amounts in excess of those initially awarded by the Secretary.

Declares that the Secretary, under the delegated system, shall retain the authority to approve rents and development costs and to execute a capital advance within 60 days of receipt of the state or local agency's commitment.

Requires the Secretary to coordinate with the VA Secretary to ensure that any housing assistance provided to veterans or veteran families includes a range of specified services tailored to the occupant's needs.

Requires the Secretary to coordinate with the VA Secretary also to ensure that owners of such assisted housing have the managerial capacity to: (1) assess the service needs of residents; (2) coordinate the provision of supportive services,

tailoring them to a resident's individual needs; and (3) seek new sources of assistance to ensure the long-term provision of such services.

Requires the Secretary periodically to establish and publish in the Federal Register reasonable development cost limitations by market area for various types and sizes of supportive housing for the families.

Entitles project owners, if their actual development costs are less than the financing amount, to retain 50% of the savings in a special housing account, increased to 75% for owners which add energy efficiency features meeting specified requirements.

Requires the Secretary to give owners the flexibility to design housing appropriate to their location and proposed resident population within broadly defined parameters.

Permits an owner voluntarily to provide funds from sources other than this Act for amenities and other features of appropriate design and construction suitable for supportive housing if their cost is not: (1) financed with the capital advance; or (2) taken into account in determining the amount of federal assistance or tenant rent contribution.

Requires an owner to: (1) adopt written tenant selection procedures that meet specified requirements; and (2) notify in writing any rejected applicant of the grounds for rejection.

Requires the Secretary to make available appropriate technical assistance to ensure that prospective applicants are able to participate more fully in the program.

Prescribes antidiscrimination, owner deposit, prevailing wage labor, residual receipt, project reserves, and other specified requirements and prohibitions.

Authorizes appropriations for FY2009 and following fiscal years.

(Sec. 4) Amends the United States Housing Act of 1937 to extend to all homeless veterans, regardless of medical condition, the program of rental vouchers (at least 20,000 per fiscal year) for VA-supported housing, which is currently limited to homeless veterans with chronic mental illnesses or chronic substance use disorders.

Declares that if any veteran member of a household for which such rental assistance is being provided, including its sole veteran member, dies, such household may not be considered, due to such death, to lose its status as the household of a homeless veteran for continued: (1) assistance eligibility; or (2) occupancy in the dwelling unit in which such family is residing at the time of such death.

Authorizes an annual increase in the budget authority for such rental assistance by sums necessary to provide the 20,000 additional vouchers for each fiscal year.

(Sec. 5) Requires annual public housing agency (PHA) plans to include statements on the housing needs of low-income and very low-income veterans on the agency waiting list.

Amends the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act to require a state and local comprehensive housing affordability strategy to describe veterans' estimated housing needs.

Requires the Secretary to revise the federal regulations relating to submission of consolidated plans to require inclusion of appropriate information relating to veterans and veterans service agencies in all such plans.

(Sec. 6) Excludes veterans' benefits from income for purposes of HUD assisted housing rental eligibility determinations.

(Sec. 7) Requires the Secretary to make grants to nonprofit entities or organizations for technical assistance in sponsoring HUD housing projects for veterans.

Provides funding for such grants for FY2009 and ensuing fiscal years.

(Sec. 8) Requires the Secretary to: (1) report annually to specified congressional committees on HUD veterans-related activities; and (2) assess every five years the housing needs of very low-income veteran families. Prescribes funding for such assessment.

Actions Timeline

- **Jun 17, 2009:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.
- **Jun 16, 2009:** Mr. Green, Al moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill.
- **Jun 16, 2009:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H6833-6840)
- **Jun 16, 2009:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 403.
- **Jun 16, 2009:** At the conclusion of debate, the chair put the question on the motion to suspend the rules. Mr. Green, Al objected to the vote on the grounds that a quorum was not present. Further proceedings on the motion were postponed. The point of no quorum was withdrawn.
- **Jun 16, 2009:** Considered as unfinished business. (consideration: CR H6849-6850)
- **Jun 16, 2009:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by recorded vote (2/3 required): 417 - 2 (Roll no. 344). (text: CR H6833-6838)
- **Jun 16, 2009:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by recorded vote (2/3 required): 417 - 2 (Roll no. 344). (text: CR H6833-6838)
- **Jun 16, 2009:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Jan 9, 2009:** Introduced in House
- **Jan 9, 2009:** Referred to House Financial Services
- **Jan 9, 2009:** Referred to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.
- **Jan 9, 2009:** Referred to House Ways and Means