

S 4399

HELP Act of 2020

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Housing and Community Development

Introduced: Aug 3, 2020

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

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (Aug 3, 2020)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/4399>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Harris, Kamala D. [D-CA]

Party: Democratic • **State:** CA • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee	Senate	Referred To	Aug 3, 2020

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Housing and Community Development

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 HR 7847	Related bill	Jul 29, 2020: Referred to the House Committee on Financial Services.

Housing Emergencies Lifeline Program Act of 2020 or the HELP Act of 2020

This bill requires the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to establish a database of information regarding evictions from federally assisted dwellings, limits the inclusion of information relating to landlord-tenant actions in consumer reports, and otherwise provides eviction-related assistance and services.

Specifically, the bill requires states and local entities receiving federal housing assistance to submit to HUD, for inclusion in the database, certain information regarding evictions from assisted dwelling units in the past year. Such information must include, among other things, the reason for eviction and whether the household was represented by legal counsel in the proceedings.

Additionally, consumer reporting agencies may include an adverse item of information relating to a landlord-tenant action in a consumer report only if the landlord prevailed in the action and the tenant was an adult on the date the court claim was filed. Any such information must be removed from a consumer report one year after the date of the action.

Further, the bill authorizes additional Emergency Solutions Grants to provide legal counsel and pay court fees for tenants subject to or at risk of eviction.

Finally, HUD must require owners of federally assisted rental units to annually provide information to each tenant regarding the rights and responsibilities of the owner with respect to eviction and local organizations and resources that can provide assistance in eviction-related matters. HUD must also establish an eviction hotline to provide assistance to tenants of these units.

Actions Timeline

- **Aug 3, 2020:** Introduced in Senate
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