

[DISCUSSION DRAFT]

115TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. _____

To authorize the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to carry out a housing choice voucher mobility demonstration to encourage families receiving such voucher assistance to move to lower-poverty areas and expand access to opportunity areas.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

M____ introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on _____

A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to carry out a housing choice voucher mobility demonstration to encourage families receiving such voucher assistance to move to lower-poverty areas and expand access to opportunity areas.

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 “_____ Act
5 of 2016”.

1 **SEC. 2. HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER MOBILITY DEM-**
2 **ONSTRATION.**

3 (a) **AUTHORITY.**—The Secretary of Housing and
4 Urban Development (in this section referred to as the
5 “Secretary”) may carry out a mobility demonstration pro-
6 gram to authorize public housing agencies to administer
7 housing choice voucher assistance under section 8(o) of
8 the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C.
9 1437f(o)) in a manner designed to encourage families re-
10 ceiving such voucher assistance to move to lower-poverty
11 areas and expand access to opportunity areas.

12 (b) **SELECTION OF PHAS.**—

13 (1) **LIMITATION.**—The Secretary shall establish
14 competitive selection criteria and requirements for
15 public housing agencies to participate in the dem-
16 onstration program under this section, and may ap-
17 prove not more than 10 regional housing mobility
18 programs established by public housing agencies for
19 such participation.

20 (2) **RANDOM SELECTION OF FAMILIES.**—The
21 Secretary may require participating agencies to use
22 a randomized selection process to select among the
23 families eligible to receive mobility assistance under
24 the demonstration program.

25 (c) **REGIONAL HOUSING MOBILITY PLAN.**—The Sec-
26 retary shall require each public housing agency applying

1 to participate in the demonstration program under this
2 section to submit a Regional Housing Mobility Plan (in
3 this section referred to as a “Plan”), which—

4 (1) shall identify the public housing agencies
5 that will participate under the Plan and the number
6 of vouchers each participating agency will make
7 available out of their existing programs in connec-
8 tion with the demonstration;

9 (2) shall identify any community-based organi-
10 zations, nonprofit organizations, businesses, and
11 other entities that will participate under the Plan
12 and describe the commitments for such participation
13 made by each such entity;

14 (3) shall identify any waivers or alternative re-
15 quirements requested for the execution of the Plan;

16 (4) shall identify any specific actions that the
17 public housing agencies and other entities will un-
18 dertake to accomplish the goals of the demonstra-
19 tion, which shall include a comprehensive approach
20 to enable a successful transition to opportunity areas
21 and may include counseling and continued support
22 for families;

23 (5) may provide for establishment of pref-
24 erences for participating families, including a pref-

1 erence for families with children, based on regional
2 housing needs and priorities; and

3 (6) shall comply with any other requirements
4 established by the Secretary.

5 (d) FUNDING FOR MOBILITY-RELATED SERVICES.—
6 Public housing agencies participating in the demonstra-
7 tion program under this section may use administrative
8 fees under section 8(q) of the United States Housing Act
9 of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(q)), their administrative fee re-
10 serves, and funding from private entities to provide mobil-
11 ity-related services in connection with the demonstration
12 program, including services such as counseling, portability
13 coordination, landlord outreach, and administrative activi-
14 ties associated with establishing and operating regional
15 mobility programs.

16 (e) WAIVERS.—

17 (1) AUTHORITY.—The Secretary may waive or
18 specify alternative requirements for any provision of
19 subsection (o), (r), or (x) of section 8 of the United
20 States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f), ex-
21 cept for requirements related to fair housing, non-
22 discrimination, or the environment, upon a finding
23 that such waiver or alternative requirement is nec-
24 essary to implement and administer a Plan.

1 (2) NOTICE.—Any such waiver or alternative
2 requirement shall not take effect before the expira-
3 tion of the 10-day period beginning upon the Sec-
4 retary publishing notice in the Federal Register of
5 such waiver or alternative requirement.

6 (f) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Secretary may imple-
7 ment the demonstration, including its terms, procedures,
8 requirements, and conditions, by notice.

9 (g) EVALUATION.—Not later than three years after
10 implementation of the regional housing mobility programs
11 under the demonstration program under this section, the
12 Secretary shall submit to the Congress and publish in the
13 Federal Register a report evaluating the effectiveness of
14 the demonstration, subject to the availability of funding
15 to conduct the evaluation.