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SENATE

{ REPORT
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TRANSPORTATION, AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL, 2018

JULY 27, 2017.—Ordered to be printed

Ms. COLLINS, from the Committee on Appropriations, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. 1655]

The Committee on Appropriations reports the bill (S. 1655) making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2018, and for other purposes, reports favorably thereon and recommends that the bill do pass.

Amounts of new budget (obligational) authority for fiscal year 2018

Total of bill as reported to the Senate	\$60,058,000,000
Amount of 2017 appropriations	61,437,017,000
Amount of 2018 budget estimate	47,928,180,000
Bill as recommended to Senate compared to—	
2017 appropriations	– 1,379,017,000
2018 budget estimate	+ 12,129,820,000

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OVERVIEW AND SUMMARY OF THE BILL

The Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies appropriations bill provides funding for a wide array of Federal programs, mostly in the Departments of Transportation [DOT] and Housing and Urban Development [HUD]. These programs include investments in road, transit, rail, maritime, pipeline, aviation and airport infrastructure; the operation of the Nation's air traffic control system; resources to support community and economic development activities; and housing assistance for those in need, including the homeless, elderly, and disabled. The bill also provides funding for the Federal Housing Administration and Government National Mortgage Association to continue their traditional roles of providing access to affordable homeownership in the United States.

The programs and activities supported by this bill include significant responsibilities entrusted to the Federal Government and its partners to protect human health and safety, support a vibrant economy, and achieve policy objectives strongly supported by the American people. The funding provided in this bill supports the investments necessary for a vibrant and economically competitive Nation.

This bill makes possible the operation of the interstate highway system, as well as the world's safest, most complex air transportation system. This bill also includes funding for competitive grants to communities to support transformative transportation infrastructure projects of national or regional importance. It ensures safe and sanitary housing for nearly 5 million low and extremely low-income families and individuals, over half of whom are elderly and/or disabled. It provides funding that is leading to the gradual elimination of homelessness among veterans, youth, victims of domestic violence, individuals and families.

The bill, as reported, provides the proper balance of transportation, housing, and community development programs and activities. It is consistent with the subcommittee's allocation for fiscal year 2018. All accounts in the bill have been closely examined to ensure that a sufficient level of funding is provided to carry out the programs of DOT, HUD, and related agencies. Details on each of the accounts, and the Committee's justifications for the funding levels are included in the report.

PROGRAM, PROJECT, AND ACTIVITY

During fiscal year 2018, for the purposes of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (Public Law 99-177), as amended, with respect to appropriations contained in the accompanying bill, the terms "program, project, and activity" [PPA] shall mean any item for which a dollar amount is contained in appropriations acts (including joint resolutions providing continuing ap-

propriations), accompanying reports of the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations, or accompanying conference reports and joint explanatory statements of the committee of conference. This definition shall apply to all programs for which new budget (obligational) authority is provided, as well as to discretionary grants and discretionary grant allocations made through either bill or report language.

REPROGRAMMING GUIDELINES

The Committee includes a provision (section 405) establishing the authority by which funding available to the agencies funded by this act may be reprogrammed for other purposes. The provision specifically requires the advanced approval of the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations of any proposal to reprogram funds that:

- creates a new program;
- eliminates a program, project, or activity [PPA];
- increases funds or personnel for any PPA for which funds have been denied or restricted by the Congress;
- proposes to redirect funds that were directed in such reports for a specific activity to a different purpose;
- augments an existing PPA in excess of \$5,000,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less;
- reduces an existing PPA by \$5,000,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less; or
- creates, reorganizes, or restructures offices different from the congressional budget justifications or the table at the end of the Committee report, whichever is more detailed.

The Committee retains the requirement that each agency submit an operating plan to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations not later than 60 days after enactment of this act to establish the baseline for application of reprogramming and transfer authorities provided in this act. Specifically, each agency should provide a table for each appropriation with columns displaying the prior year enacted level; budget request; adjustments made by Congress; adjustments for rescissions, if appropriate; and the fiscal year enacted level. The table shall delineate the appropriation and prior year enacted level both by object class and by PPA, as well as identify balances available for use under section 406 of the bill. The report must also identify items of special congressional interest.

The Committee expects the agencies and bureaus to submit reprogramming requests in a timely manner and to provide a thorough explanation of the proposed reallocations, including a detailed justification of increases and reductions and the specific impact the proposed changes will have on the budget request for the following fiscal year. Except in emergency situations, reprogramming requests should be submitted no later than June 30.

The Committee expects each agency to manage its programs and activities within the amounts appropriated by Congress. The Committee reminds agencies that reprogramming requests should be submitted only in the case of an unforeseeable emergency or a situation that could not have been anticipated when formulating the budget request for the current fiscal year. Further, the Committee

notes that when a Department or agency submits a reprogramming or transfer request to the Committees on Appropriations and does not receive identical responses from the House and Senate, it is the responsibility of the Department to reconcile the House and Senate differences before proceeding, and if reconciliation is not possible, to consider the request to reprogram funds unapproved.

The Committee would also like to clarify that this section applies to the Department of Transportation's Working Capital Fund, and that no funds may be obligated from such funds to augment programs, projects or activities for which appropriations have been specifically rejected by the Congress, or to increase funds or personnel for any PPA above the amounts appropriated by this act.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET JUSTIFICATIONS

Budget justifications are the primary tool used by the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations to evaluate the resource requirements and fiscal needs of agencies. The Committee is aware that the format and presentation of budget materials is largely left to the agency within presentation objectives set forth by the Office of Management and Budget [OMB]. In fact, OMB Circular A-11, part 6 specifically states that the "agency should consult with your congressional committees beforehand to ensure their awareness of your plans to modify the format of agency budget documents." The Committee expects that all agencies funded under this act will heed this directive. The Committee expects all of the budget justifications to provide the data needed to make appropriate and meaningful funding decisions.

While the Committee values the inclusion of performance data and presentations, it is important to ensure vital budget information that the Committee needs is not lost. Therefore, the Committee directs that justifications submitted with the fiscal year 2019 budget request by agencies funded under this act contain the customary level of detailed data and explanatory statements to support the appropriations requests at the level of detail contained in the funding table included at the end of the report. Among other items, agencies shall provide a detailed discussion of proposed new initiatives, proposed changes in the agency's financial plan from prior year enactment, and detailed data on all programs and comprehensive information on any office or agency restructurings. At a minimum, each agency must also provide adequate justification for funding and staffing changes for each individual office and materials that compare programs, projects, and activities that are proposed for fiscal year 2019 to the fiscal year 2018 enacted level.

The Committee is aware that the analytical materials required for review by the Committee are unique to each agency in this act. Therefore, the Committee expects that each agency will coordinate with the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations in advance on its planned presentation for its budget justification materials in support of the fiscal year 2019 budget request.

The Committee directs each agency to include within its budget justification a report on all efforts made to address the duplication identified by the annual GAO reports along with legal barriers preventing the agency's ability to further reduce duplication and legislative recommendations, if applicable.

GUIDANCE DOCUMENTS

The Committee remains concerned about the use of guidance documents, or interpretive rules, to impose new requirements on regulated entities even though such documents are not legally binding. The Supreme Court has recognized there can be a fine line between what should be issued as a regulation for purposes of notice and comment rulemaking under the Administrative Procedure Act and what can be issued as guidance. The Supreme Court has also recognized that Federal agencies may sometimes issue guidance to circumvent the notice and comment rulemaking process. Legal scholars and multiple members of Congress have also expressed concern about the use of guidance to avoid rulemaking. Finally, the GAO found that if an agency periodically reviews its guidance it can significantly reduce unnecessary guidance. For example, after a sub-agency in the Department of Labor reviewed its guidance to determine if it was relevant and current, the sub-agency was able to reduce its guidance by 85 percent. GAO also found that the dissemination of guidance to the public can be improved.

The Committee recommends the Departments of Transportation and Housing and Urban Development clearly label in a plain, prominent, and permanent manner that the agency's guidance documents are not legally binding and may not be relied upon by the agency as grounds for agency action. The Committee also recommends this include a thorough explanation on an agency's guidance document about why the agency believes it is appropriate to issue guidance about a matter instead of proposing a regulation and what specific statutory provisions or regulation(s) the guidance is interpreting. The Committee further recommends this guidance be updated every 2 years, with input solicited from the public, to determine if any of its guidance is duplicative, outdated, ineffective, insufficient, or excessively burdensome and needs to be modified, streamlined, or repealed and place all guidance documents in one place on its Web site as well as on the relevant sub-agency Web page. This information should be easily accessible for the public to comment on guidance and should be sent to the Office of Management and Budget to determine if the guidance is significant.

TRANSPARENCY REQUIREMENT

The Committee is aware that agencies funded in this act use resources for advertising purposes. The Committee directs the agencies in this act to state within the text, audio, or video used for new advertising purposes, including advertising/posting on the Internet, that the advertisements are printed, published, or produced and disseminated at U.S. taxpayer expense. The agencies may exempt any such advertisements from this requirement if it creates an adverse impact on safety or impedes the ability of these agencies to carry out their statutory authority.

The Committee is also concerned about the number of advisory and rulemaking Committees and the resources that are being redirected to accomplish tasks. In an effort to ensure proper oversight, within 30 days of enactment of this act, the Departments are directed to provide to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations: (1) a complete list of rulemaking and advisory commit-

tees and their underlying authorization; (2) costs to the Departments associated with each advisory committee, including travel reimbursements; and (3) a complete list and copy of all reports and recommendations produced since January 1, 2016.

FEDERALLY FUNDED RESEARCH

The Committee urges the Department of Transportation and the Department of Housing and Urban Development to affirmatively determine, justified in writing made available on a publically accessible website, that research grants or agreements promote the progress of science in the United States or will advance a national security or economic interest.

TITLE II
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

The Department of Housing and Urban Development [HUD] was established by the Housing and Urban Development Act (Public Law 89-174), effective November 9, 1965. This Department is the principal Federal agency responsible for programs concerned with the Nation's housing needs, fair housing opportunities, and improving and developing communities.

In carrying out the mission of serving the needs and interests of the Nation's communities and of the people who live and work in them, HUD administers: mortgage and loan insurance programs that help families become homeowners and facilitate the construction of rental housing; rental and homeownership subsidy programs for low-income families who otherwise could not afford decent housing; programs to combat discrimination in housing and affirmatively further fair housing opportunities; programs aimed at ensuring an adequate supply of mortgage credit; and programs that aid neighborhood rehabilitation, community development, and the preservation of our urban centers from blight and decay.

HUD also administers programs that protect homebuyers, and fosters programs and research that stimulate and guide the housing industry to provide not only housing, but better communities and living environments.

As HUD works to fulfill its mission, the Committee urges the Secretary to enhance its efforts to provide decent, affordable housing and to promote economic development for rural Americans. When designing programs and making funding decisions, the Secretary shall take into consideration the unique conditions, challenges, and scale of rural areas.

The Committee notes that poverty is far too prevalent in the United States. HUD should continue to work with Congress and other partners to implement policies that reduce poverty and the suffering associated with it. The Committee also encourages HUD to increase interagency collaboration to ensure Federal resources are strategically deployed in order to achieve the most effective outcomes, while also reducing overlap and duplication.

Relationship Between HUD and the Committee on Appropriations.—A relationship between the Committee and HUD has existed through the Departmental budget office. This relationship has, in prior years, proven beneficial to the Committee in completing its work structuring the annual Appropriations Act. However, the Committee retains the right to call upon all offices and agencies within the Department during the course of its oversight and funding of the Department's programs. Additionally, the Com-

mittee expects that all offices within HUD will provide timely and accurate information to the Committee upon request.

Appropriations Attorneys.—During consideration of the fiscal year 2003 appropriations legislation, it became apparent to the Committee that both the Committee and the Department would be better served if the attorneys responsible for appropriations matters were housed in the Office of the Chief Financial Officer [OCFO]. The fiscal year 2003 act provided funds and FTE to the OCFO to accommodate four attorneys transferred from the Office of General Counsel [OGC]. Since that time, the Committee has routinely received prompt, accurate, and reliable information from the OCFO on various appropriations law matters. For fiscal year 2018, the Committee continues to fund appropriations attorneys in the OCFO and directs HUD to refer all appropriations law issues to such attorneys within the OCFO.

Reprogramming and Congressional Notification.—The Committee reiterates that the Department must secure the approval of the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations for the reprogramming of funds between programs, projects, and activities within each account. Unless otherwise identified in the bill or report, the most detailed allocation of funds presented in the budget justifications is approved, with any deviation from such approved allocation subject to the normal reprogramming requirements. Except as specifically provided otherwise, it is the intent of the Committee that all carryover funds in the various accounts, including recaptures and de-obligations, are subject to the normal reprogramming requirements outlined under section 405. No change may be made to any program, project, or activity if it is construed to be new policy or a change in policy, without prior approval of the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations. The Committee also directs HUD to include a separate delineation of any reprogramming of funds requiring approval in the operating plan required by section 405 of this act. Finally, the Committee shall be notified regarding reorganizations of offices, programs or activities prior to the implementation of such reorganizations. The Department is directed to submit, in consultation with the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations, current and accurate organizational charts for each Office within the Department as part of the fiscal year 2019 congressional justifications. The Committee further directs the Department to submit any staff realignments or restructuring to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations 30 days prior to their implementation.

Congressionally Mandated Reports.—The Department is reminded that directives and reports mandated in the House and Senate Appropriations Acts and accompanying reports are not optional unless revised or eliminated by the Statement of Managers accompanying the act. The Committee believes that such reports provide a better understanding of various issues and the Committee uses such reports to help inform funding decisions. Therefore, the Department is advised that the submission of directed reports is mandatory and not at the discretion of the Department. The Committee directs the Department to submit all overdue reports and to advise the Committee if it is unable to meet a reporting requirement well in advance of the deadline.

Addressing the Needs of Survivors of Domestic Violence.—In November 2016, HUD published its final rule, “Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 [VAWA 2013]: Implementation in HUD Housing Programs” which expanded housing protections to all victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. In accordance with the reauthorization statute, this rule not only expanded protections beyond public housing and Section 8 programs, it also required grantees to develop emergency transfer plans in order to meet the pressing housing and services needs of this vulnerable population. Subsequently, on May 19, 2017, HUD issued guidance for its Public and Indian Housing [PIH] programs with Notice PIH-2017-08 and on June 30, 2017, issued guidance for its Multifamily Housing programs with Notice H 2017-05. However, the Department has yet to issue guidance for its Community Planning and Development [CPD] programs, or update critical notices and forms, including the “Notice of Occupancy Rights under the Violence Against Women Act”, the “Certification of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, or Stalking, and Alternative Documentation” form, the “Emergency Transfer Request for Certain Victims of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, or Stalking” form, and “Model Emergency Transfer Plan for Victims of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, or Stalking”. Additionally, the Department has yet to update its handbooks and lease terms for programs covered under VAWA 2013. The Committee is extremely concerned that without critical updates to guidance, handbooks, and forms, grantees are unable to effectively meet their statutory obligations under VAWA 2013, and assist those who are fleeing unsafe circumstances and require the protection of the law. Therefore, the Committee directs HUD to prioritize and expeditiously issue the related guidance and update its forms within 120 days of enactment of this act. Additionally, on December 16, 2016, an amendment to VAWA 2013’s housing provisions was signed into law as part of the Justice for All Reauthorization Act of 2016. This amendment clarified that lease bifurcations and post-lease bifurcation protections apply to both survivor tenants and residents. However, HUD has not taken action to clarify how this change impacts its programs, or sought public comment through further rulemaking. As a result, the Committee directs the Department to issue clarifying guidance on how this change applies to VAWA 2013 covered programs within 60 days of enactment of this act, and where necessary, initiate public comment and or rulemaking within 90 days of enactment of this act.

Implementation of Lead-Based Paint Hazard Initiatives.—It is estimated that at least four million American households have children who are being exposed to high levels of lead and that approximately 24 million homes in the United States contain lead-based paint or lead-contaminated dust. Exposure to this paint and dust in the home accounts for 70 percent of lead poisoning cases in the United States. Last year, the Committee directed HUD to determine the extent of this health hazard in HUD-assisted housing; however, HUD lacked sufficient data and proper oversight of public housing agencies’ [PHAs] and property owners’ compliance with existing lead-based paint regulations to conclude the scale of the problem for the nearly 5 million families living in HUD-assisted

housing. The Committee also expressed concern about the 34,000 children under the age of six residing in zero-bedroom units, including studios and efficiency apartments, which were excluded from the protections afforded by lead-based paint regulations and from receiving grant funding from HUD to address those hazards. The Committee was extremely concerned by HUD’s overall lack of data and oversight and the potential exposure of children to lead-based paint hazards in HUD-assisted housing.

As a result, the Committee included a comprehensive series of lead-based paint remediation initiatives: \$60,000,000 in additional resources to address lead-based paint hazards in both public and low-income housing; and directed numerous provisions to improve quality controls for physical inspections, enhance HUD’s oversight of those inspections; and expand the housing units covered by lead-based paint regulations. Specifically, these initiatives included: increasing HUD’s oversight and quality assurance of physical inspections in public and multifamily housing to ensure that PHAs and property owners are complying with lead-based paint regulations; doubling the number of inspectors in the Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes’ Enforcement Division; requiring HUD to issue clarifying guidance to PHAs on current and prospective lead-based paint regulations to help ensure that HUD-assisted units meet HUD’s lead-safe standards; and removing zero-bedroom dwellings from the exceptions set forth in several lead-based paint hazard prevention statutes. These directives will help HUD provide more effective oversight of lead-based paint regulations, as well as assist PHA compliance. Furthermore, by removing the exceptions granted to zero-bedroom dwellings, the Committee is ensuring that young children living in HUD-assisted housing will be protected from the dangers of lead-based paint hazards regardless of the type of unit in which they reside.

The Committee is pleased that the Secretary shares the commitment and urgency to implement the initiatives and to protect young children in HUD-assisted housing from lead-based paint hazards. The Committee directs the Department to complete implementation of all of these initiatives within 90 days of enactment of this act.

EXECUTIVE OFFICES

Appropriations, 2017	\$14,000,000
Budget estimate, 2018	14,708,000
Committee recommendation	15,645,000

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Executive Offices account provides the salaries and expenses funding to support the Department’s senior leadership and other key functions, including the immediate offices of the Secretary, Deputy Secretary, Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations, Public Affairs, Adjudicatory Services, the Center for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, and the Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$15,645,000 for this account, which is \$1,645,000 more than the fiscal year 2017 enacted level and \$937,000 more than the budget request. The Secretary is directed to submit a spend plan to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations that outlines how budgetary resources will be distributed among the seven offices funded under this heading.

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT OFFICES

Appropriations, 2017	\$517,647,000
Budget estimate, 2018	517,803,000
Committee recommendation	520,190,000

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Administrative Support Offices [ASO] account is the backbone of HUD’s operations, and consists of several offices that aim to work seamlessly to provide the leadership and support services to ensure the Department performs its core mission and is compliant with all legal, operational, and financial guidelines. This account funds the salaries and expenses of the Office of the General Counsel, the Office of the Chief Financial Officer, the Office of the Chief Procurement Officer, the Office of Departmental Equal Employment Opportunity, the Office of Field Policy and Management, the Office of Strategic Planning and Management, the Office of the Chief Human Capital Officer, the Office of Administration, and the Office of the Chief Information Officer.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$520,190,000 for this account, which is \$2,543,000 more than the fiscal year 2017 enacted level and \$2,387,000 more than the budget request.

Funds are made available as follows:

	Amount
Office of the Chief Human Capital Officer	\$39,300,000
Office of Administration	206,140,000
Office of the Chief Financial Officer	52,200,000
Office of the Chief Procurement Officer	19,500,000
Office of Field Policy and Management	53,500,000
Office of Departmental Equal Employment Opportunity	3,800,000
Office of the General Counsel	95,400,000
Office of Strategic Planning and Management	4,950,000
Office of the Chief Information Officer	45,400,000

Hiring and Separation Report.—The Committee directs HUD’s Office of the Chief Financial Officer and the Office of the Human Capital Officer to submit quarterly reports to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations on hiring and separations by program office. This report shall include position titles, location, associated FTE, and include the Office of the Inspector General and Government National Mortgage Association.

Office of Chief Operations Officer [OCCO].—The Committee recommendation does not include the authority to establish an Office of Chief Operations Officer within the Administrative Support Of-

ices account as proposed in the budget request. The Committee recommendation continues to fund this function with the Executive Offices account.

Office of the Chief Financial Officer [OCFO].—The Department is directed to cap the staffing for the OCFO Office of Budget at the level of staff on board on September 30, 2017. The Department is further directed to limit the staffing level of the OCFO Immediate Office to no more than 3 FTE until a Chief Financial Officer is confirmed by the Senate. The Department is further directed to add 4 FTEs to the OCFO Office of Accounting staffing level above the fiscal year 2017 level. The Department shall not alter the organizational structure of OCFO as in effect on January 1, 2015, without prior written approval of the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations.

PROGRAM OFFICES SALARIES AND EXPENSES

PUBLIC AND INDIAN HOUSING

Appropriations, 2017	\$216,000,000
Budget estimate, 2018	216,633,000
Committee recommendation	222,000,000

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

This account provides salary and benefits funding to support staff in headquarters and in 46 field offices in the Office of Public and Indian Housing [PIH]. PIH is charged with ensuring the availability of safe, decent, and affordable housing, creating opportunities for residents’ self-sufficiency and economic independence, and assuring the fiscal integrity of all public housing agencies. The Office ensures that safe, decent and affordable housing is available to Native American families, creates economic opportunities for tribes and Indian housing residents, assists tribes in the formulation of plans and strategies for community development, and assures fiscal integrity in the operation of its programs. The Office also administers programs authorized in the Native American Housing Assistance and Self Determination Act of 1996 [NAHASDA], which provides housing assistance to Native Americans and Native Hawaiians. PIH also manages the Housing Choice Voucher program, in which tenant-based vouchers increase affordable housing choices for low-income families. Tenant-based vouchers enable families to lease safe, decent, and affordable privately owned rental housing.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$222,000,000 for this account, which is \$5,367,000 more than the budget request and \$6,000,000 more than the fiscal year 2017 enacted level. The Committee recommendation supports existing personnel, and reflects the establishment of a Working Capital Fund in fiscal year 2017 for shared service costs. Of the amounts provided, no less than \$200,000 is for travel related to the provision of training, technical assistance, oversight and management of Indian housing.

The Committee directs HUD to prioritize the hiring of one additional staff person in the field office for the management and oversight of Native Hawaiian programs.

The Committee directs HUD to inform the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations within 30 days of enactment of this act regarding how it is implementing the Committee’s hiring direction.

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Appropriations, 2017	\$110,000,000
Budget estimate, 2018	107,554,000
Committee recommendation	108,300,000

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

This account provides salary and benefits funding for Community Planning and Development [CPD] staff in headquarters and in 43 field offices. CPD’s mission is to support successful urban, suburban and rural communities by promoting integrated approaches to community and economic development. CPD programs also assist in the expansion of opportunities for low- and moderate-income individuals and families in moving towards home ownership. The Assistant Secretary for CPD administers formula and competitive grant programs, as well as guaranteed loan programs that help communities plan and finance their growth and development. These programs also help communities increase their capacity to govern and provide shelter and services for homeless persons and other persons with special needs, including person with HIV/AIDS.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$108,300,000 for the staffing within this office, which is \$746,000 more than the budget request and \$1,700,000 less than the fiscal year 2017 enacted level.

The Committee directs HUD to prioritize the hiring of staff to support grant monitoring, as well as the closeout of open audits and backlog of open grants particularly as it relates to disaster recovery grants, before hiring in other areas, unless such staff are identified as backfilling mission-critical positions.

The Committee directs HUD to inform the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations within 30 days of enactment of this act regarding how it is implementing the Committee’s hiring direction.

New Housing in High Cost Metropolitan Areas.—The Committee is concerned that a combination of income concentration and housing supply constraints in high-productivity metropolitan areas has created entry limits harmful to geographic and economic mobility. Upward price pressure on rents resulting from such conditions imposes a greater financial burden on Federal taxpayers through rental assistance programs that respond to market rents. The Committee directs the Department to report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations no later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this act, identifying metropolitan areas where such conditions are most prevalent and recommending best practices for localities and states to help encourage the production of new housing stock in high-cost metropolitan areas.

Promise Zones.—Since 2014, HUD has competitively made Promise Zone designations in 21 communities. These designations part-

ner the Federal government with local communities to address multiple community revitalization challenges in a collaborative way and have demonstrated a commitment to results. To realize the full potential of these designations, the Committee has included language this year directing HUD to continue supporting the existing Promise Zone designations for the length of their agreements.

HOUSING

Appropriations, 2017	\$392,000,000
Budget estimate, 2018	365,829,000
Committee recommendation	383,000,000

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

This account provides salary and benefits funding to support staff in headquarters and in 52 field locations in the Office of Housing. The Office of Housing is responsible for implementing programs to assist projects for occupancy by very low- and moderate-income households, to provide capital grants to nonprofit sponsors for the development of housing for the elderly and disabled, and to conduct several regulatory functions. The Office also administers Federal Housing Administration [FHA] programs. FHA administers HUD's mortgage and loan insurance programs, which facilitate the financing of new construction, rehabilitation or the purchase of existing dwelling units. The Office also provides services to maintain and preserve homeownership, especially for underserved populations. This assistance allows lenders to make lower cost financing available to more borrowers for home and home improvement loans, and apartment, hospital, and nursing home loans. FHA provides a vital link in addressing America's homeownership and affordable housing needs.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$383,000,000 for staffing in the Office of Housing, which is \$17,171,000 more than the budget request and \$9,000,000 less than the fiscal year 2017 enacted level.

POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH

Appropriations, 2017	\$24,000,000
Budget estimate, 2018	24,065,000
Committee recommendation	25,400,000

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

This account provides salary and benefits funding to support staff in headquarters and in 16 field locations in the Office of Policy Development and Research [PD&R]. PD&R supports the Department's efforts to help create cohesive, economically healthy communities. PD&R is responsible for maintaining current information on housing needs, market conditions, and existing programs, as well as conducting research on priority housing and community development issues. The office provides reliable and objective data and analysis to help inform policy decisions.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$25,400,000 for this account, which is \$1,335,000 more than the budget request and \$1,400,000 more than the fiscal year 2017 enacted level.

PD&R collects and distributes data on HUD programs, the people HUD serves, and housing needs across the country, in addition to providing technical assistance in these areas. The information it makes available and the analysis it provides to the Department are essential to moving HUD to outcome-based performance measures. The Committee also relies on the data and research provided by PD&R to inform its work. The recommended amount will ensure that PD&R can continue to play this important role.

FAIR HOUSING AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

Appropriations, 2017	\$72,000,000
Budget estimate, 2018	69,808,000
Committee recommendation	72,400,000

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

This account provides salary and benefits funding to support staff in headquarters and in all regional offices in the Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity [FHEO]. FHEO is responsible for investigating, resolving, and prosecuting complaints of housing discrimination, as well as conducting education and outreach activities to increase awareness of the requirements of the Fair Housing Act. The Office also develops and interprets fair housing policy, processes complaints, performs compliance reviews, and provides oversight and technical assistance to local housing authorities and community development agencies regarding section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$72,400,000, which is \$2,592,000 more than the budget request and \$400,000 more than the fiscal year 2017 enacted level.

OFFICE OF LEAD HAZARD CONTROL AND HEALTHY HOMES

Appropriations, 2017	\$9,353,000
Budget estimate, 2018	7,600,000
Committee recommendation	8,200,000

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

This account provides salary and benefits funding to support the Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes [OLHCHH] headquarters staff. OLHCHH administers and manages the lead-based paint and healthy homes activities of the Department, and is directly responsible for the administration of the Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction program. The office also develops lead-based paint regulations, guidelines, and policies applicable to HUD programs, designs lead-based paint and healthy homes training programs, administers lead-hazard control and healthy homes grant programs, and implements the lead and healthy homes research program.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$8,200,000 for this account, which is \$600,000 more than the budget request and \$1,153,000 less than the fiscal year 2017 enacted level.

WORKING CAPITAL FUND

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Department of Housing and Urban Development's Working Capital Fund [WCF] was established by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2017. The purpose of the WCF is to promote economy, efficiency, and accountability. Amounts transferred to the Fund are for Federal shared services used by offices and agencies of the Department, and are derived from centralized Salaries and Expenses accounts starting in 2017.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommendation provides the Secretary with the authority to transfer amounts provided in this title for salaries and expenses, except those for the Office of Inspector General, to this account for the purpose of funding centralized activities. The Department is required to centralize and fund from this account any shared service agreements executed between HUD and another Federal agency. For fiscal year 2018, the Department is permitted to centralize and fund from this account: financial management, procurement, travel, relocation, human resources, printing, records management, space renovation, furniture, and supply services. The Committee does not expand the authority to include the proposed management data initiative. The Committee expects that, prior to exercising discretion to centrally fund an activity, the Secretary shall have established transparent and reliable unit cost accounting for the offices and agencies of the Department that use the activity and shall have adequately trained staff within each affected office and agency on resource planning and accounting processes associated with the centralization of funds to this account.

Prior to exercising its authority to transfer funds for activities beyond what is required for shared service agreements, the Committee expects HUD to establish a clear execution plan for centralizing the additional activities and to properly vet that plan with the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations prior to transferring such funds into the WCF. Financial management, procurement, travel, and relocation costs for services provided to the Office of the Inspector General are covered by the Office of the Chief Financial Officer.

HUD shall include in its annual operating plan a detailed outline of its plans for transferring budgetary resources to the WCF in fiscal year 2018.

The Committee directs the Department to submit to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations within 90 days of enactment of this act a report on HUD's shared service agreement with the Administrative Resource Center [ARC] for financial management, procurement, and travel services. This report shall, at a min-

imum, define the scope of the agreement (including the defined roles of ARC and HUD), summarize the agreed upon solutions for addressing HUD’s core accounting, financial management and reporting, procurement, and travel functions, and provide an update on all outcomes of the shared service agreement as of September 30, 2017. The report shall identify how the shared service agreement addresses weaknesses and deficiencies in program administration, systems and data management, and human capital that effect HUD’s annual financial accounting and reporting. It shall also identify functionality HUD previously had related to financial management and reporting, procurement, and travel that has been lost as a result of the shift to a shared service model.

PUBLIC AND INDIAN HOUSING

TENANT-BASED RENTAL ASSISTANCE

Appropriations, 2017	\$20,292,000,000
Budget estimate, 2018	19,317,900,000
Committee recommendation	21,365,120,000

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

This account provides funding for the Section 8 tenant-based (voucher) program. Section 8 tenant-based housing assistance is one of the principle appropriations for Federal housing assistance, serving approximately 2.2 million families. The program also funds incremental vouchers for tenants who live in properties where the owner has decided to leave the Section 8 program. The program also provides for the replacement of units lost from the assisted housing inventory through its tenant protection vouchers. Under these programs, eligible low-income individuals and families pay 30 percent of their adjusted income for rent, and the Federal Government is responsible for the remainder of the rent, up to the fair market rent or some other payment standard. This account also provides funding for administrative fees for PHAs, mainstream vouchers, Housing and Urban Development Veterans Supportive Housing [HUD–VASH] programs, and other incremental vouchers for vulnerable populations.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$21,365,120,000 for fiscal year 2018, including \$4,000,000,000 as an advance appropriation to be made available on October 1, 2018. This amount is \$2,047,220,000 more than the budget request and \$1,073,120,000 more than the fiscal year 2017 enacted level.

Contract Renewals.—The Committee recommends \$19,370,000,000 for the renewal costs of Section 8 vouchers, which is \$1,786,174,000 more than the budget request and \$1,015,000,000 more than the fiscal year 2017 enacted level.

The Section 8 rental assistance program is a critical tool that enables more than 2 million low-income individuals and families to access safe, stable, and affordable housing in the private market. In recognition of the Section 8 program’s central role in ensuring housing for vulnerable Americans, the Committee recommendation and existing reserves will provide sufficient resources to ensure

that no current voucher holders are put at risk of losing their housing assistance. It also supports the first time renewal of incremental vouchers that were funded in prior years, including HUD-VASH vouchers. The Committee will continue to monitor leasing data to make sure residents are protected.

Regulatory Relief.—The Committee recognizes the growing demand placed on small- and medium-sized public housing agencies across the Nation. Given this recognition, the Committee believes that small agencies may face disproportionate regulatory burdens and the Department should simplify monitoring and compliance requirements. The Committee continues to urge HUD to eliminate excessive paperwork and administrative requirements and develop opportunities that achieve new efficiencies in management and operations for small- and medium-sized public housing agencies. The Committee directs HUD to report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations on recommendations for statutory and regulatory relief for small- to medium-sized PHAs within 120 days of enactment of this act. The Committee is also concerned that certain PHAs that do not meet the definition of small- and medium-sized also face similar regulatory challenges. Therefore, the Committee encourages HUD to examine the administrative requirements and identify possible efficiency adjustments that can be made for PHAs that only administer the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program.

Set-Aside for Special Circumstances.—The Committee has provided a set-aside of \$75,000,000 to allow the Secretary to adjust allocations to PHAs under certain circumstances. Qualifying factors include: (1) a significant increase, as determined by the Secretary, in renewal costs of tenant-based rental assistance resulting from unforeseen circumstances and voucher utilization or the impact from portability under section 8(r) of the act; (2) vouchers that were not in use during the previous 12-month period in order to be available to meet a commitment pursuant to section 8(o)(13) of the act; (3) adjustments or costs associated with HUD-VASH vouchers; and (4) possible termination of families as a result of insufficient funding. A PHA should not receive an adjustment to its allocation from the funding provided under this section if the Secretary determines that such PHA, through negligence or intentional actions, would exceed its authorized level of vouchers.

HUD-VASH.—Since 2008, the Committee has provided more than \$500,000,000 in targeted funding to address veterans' homelessness. Communities across the country have been able to use these resources to make tremendous strides in addressing veterans' homelessness. Progress continues to be made in 2017 as communities including La Crosse, Wisconsin, and Akron, Ohio joined a growing list of cities and states that have ended veterans' homelessness. These successes, which are the result of hard work and effective collaboration, have been critical in reducing veterans' homelessness by 47 percent since 2010. For this reason, the Committee again rejects the budget proposal to prematurely end funding for new VASH vouchers and includes \$40,000,000 for this purpose.

The Committee also encourages the Department to use existing authority to recapture HUD-VASH voucher assistance from PHAs that voluntarily declare that they no longer have a need for that

assistance, and reallocate it to PHAs with an identified need. The Committee directs HUD to expedite this process, ensuring that communities that have successfully ended veterans' homelessness enable other communities to assist this population. The Committee encourages the Department to prioritize, as part of this reallocation, PHAs that project-base a portion of their HUD-VASH vouchers.

Tribal-VASH.—The Committee recommendation includes \$5,000,000 for rental assistance and associated administrative costs for Tribal HUD-VASH to serve Native American veterans that are homeless or at-risk of homelessness living on or near a reservation or other Indian areas. The Committee is aware that House and Senate authorizing committees are considering authorizing this demonstration program. As part of this consideration, the Committee encourages the respective committees of jurisdiction to consider the effectiveness of administering the program through the Office of Native American Programs, as currently demonstrated, rather than the Office of Housing Choice Vouchers, where traditional HUD-VASH vouchers are managed. The Department's administration and use of these funds have been in alignment with the administration of programs authorized under the Native American Housing and Self Determination Act [NAHASDA]. As a result, the Committee encourages the authorizing committees to consider authorizing this program, as appropriate, as part of NAHASDA rather than under the 1937 Housing Act.

Administrative Fees.—The Committee recommends \$1,725,000,000 for administrative fees, which is \$175,000,000 more than the budget request and \$75,000,000 more than the fiscal year 2017 enacted level. The Committee is concerned that where there is a significant fluctuation in local rental market conditions, HUD's published fair market rents do not reflect the increased need in rental subsidy and the associated operating costs. As a result, some PHAs are conducting independent market surveys to more accurately reflect local market conditions, to submit to HUD for review and consideration. The Committee understands that such surveys are an eligible administrative expense under the Housing Choice Voucher program, and therefore directs HUD to issue clarifying guidance within 90 days of enactment of this act on how PHAs can use administrative fee funding for this purpose.

Tenant Protection Vouchers.—The Committee recommendation includes \$75,000,000 for tenant protection vouchers. These vouchers are provided to public housing residents whose buildings have health or safety issues, or whose projects are being demolished. However, the largest share of these vouchers is provided to tenants living in properties with expiring HUD assistance that may face rent increases if their owners opt out of HUD programs. In these instances, the vouchers ensure continued affordability of tenants' housing.

Section 811 Mainstream Vouchers.—The Committee recommends \$130,120,000 to continue the rental assistance and administrative costs of this program.

Family Unification Program [FUP].—Young adults associated with child welfare systems are more likely to experience homelessness as adults or as they transition to adulthood. The Committee

recognizes that stable, affordable housing with appropriate services can help prevent children from being unnecessarily removed from their families and help youth exiting foster care transition to adulthood. Therefore, the Committee includes \$20,000,000 for new FUP vouchers. The Committee directs HUD to prioritize the award of these new vouchers to PHAs that will target them to youth and PHAs that have partnered with their local public child welfare agency to ensure youth referrals for these vouchers. The Committee also includes language permitting the Secretary to recapture voucher assistance from PHAs that no longer have a need for that assistance, and reallocate it to PHAs with an identified need.

HOUSING CERTIFICATE FUND

(INCLUDING RESCISSIONS)

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Until fiscal year 2005, the Housing Certificate Fund provided funding for both the project-based and tenant-based components of the Section 8 program. Project-based rental assistance and tenant-based rental assistance are now separately funded accounts. The Housing Certificate Fund retains balances from previous years' appropriations.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee has included language that will allow unobligated balances from specific accounts to be used to renew or amend project-based rental assistance contracts.

PUBLIC HOUSING CAPITAL FUND

Appropriations, 2017	\$1,941,500,000
Budget estimate, 2018	628,000,000
Committee recommendation	1,945,000,000

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

This account provides funding for modernization and capital needs of PHAs (except Tribally Designated Housing Entities), including management improvements, resident relocation, and homeownership activities.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$1,945,000,000 for the Public Housing Capital Fund, which is \$1,317,000,000 more than the budget request and \$3,500,000 more than the fiscal year 2017 enacted level.

Of the amount made available under this account, \$25,000,000 is for supportive services for residents of public housing under the Resident Opportunity and Self-Sufficiency [ROSS] program, and \$15,000,000 is for the Jobs-Plus demonstration. The Committee also recommends up to \$8,300,000 to support the ongoing financial and physical assessment activities performed by the Real Estate Assessment Center [REAC] and \$1,000,000 for the cost of administrative and judicial receiverships.

ConnectHome.—The Committee does not include resources for the ConnectHome initiative, which provides a platform for collaboration among local governments, public housing agencies, Internet service providers, philanthropic foundations, nonprofit organizations and other relevant stakeholders to work together to produce local solutions for narrowing the digital divide in communities across the Nation served by HUD. However, the Committee encourages the Department to continue to partner with these entities to help identify ways residents living in public housing can connect to broadband infrastructure through technical assistance and digital literacy training. The Committee encourages HUD to work with its partners to take steps to expand the number of participating communities.

Safety and Security in Public Housing.—The Committee directs at least \$5,000,000 of the \$21,500,000 recommended for emergency capital needs for safety and security measures necessary to address crime and drug-related activity in public housing. The Committee has included this specific set-aside because there are PHAs facing safety and security issues that rely on these funds to protect their tenants. The Committee notes that the demand for these funds continues to grow while the amount that HUD is awarding to PHAs is decreasing. The Committee believes that the level of funding recommended will support both repairs from disasters and safety and security improvements. Therefore, the Committee directs the Department to fund eligible safety and security projects with a portion of these funds as quickly as possible. The Committee continues language clarifying that unused funds from the emergency set-aside shall be used to address safety and security needs of PHAs and the residents who live in these properties.

Quality Assurance of Physical Inspections.—The Committee remains concerned about the physical quality of some HUD-subsidized properties across the country, including incidences of unaddressed or untimely responses to health-related hazards in HUD-assisted housing. The scope of this issue has spanned geographic regions, but the Committee is encouraged that authorizing committees have taken steps to address systemic problems with HUD's oversight, and improved the Real Estate Assessment Center's [REAC] inspections of HUD-assisted housing. The Committee directs the Department to move expeditiously to implement the provisions contained in section 101 of title I of the Housing Opportunity Through Modernization Act of 2016, which unambiguously affirms congressional intent regarding inspections and tenant protections. The Committee also directs the Department to submit to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations 30 days after enactment of this act, a report identifying how funds provided for the Real Estate Assessment Center, including any carryover balances, will be utilized during fiscal year 2018. The Committee further directs the Real Estate Assessment Center to work with the Office of Policy Development and Research to identify and implement a statistically significant sample photographic review of HUD-assisted properties that receive a passing inspection score during fiscal year 2018. The Department shall report its findings from this review to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations no later than September 30, 2018.

The Committee encourages the Department to work with the House and Senate authorizing committees on enforcement actions, including civil monetary penalties, that HUD can take to ensure PHAs and landlords maintain the physical quality of HUD-assisted units.

The Committee continues to support efforts to quickly issue tenant-protection vouchers to ensure affected residents are expeditiously securing housing that meets HUD's decent, safe and sanitary standards. The Committee would like to reiterate that failure to maintain the physical condition of HUD-assisted properties results in a loss of critical affordable housing and tenant protection vouchers are of questionable value to families that encounter a lack of affordable housing in their communities. The Committee recognizes that residents displaced from public housing may find it difficult to find replacement housing within their existing community and may have to find replacement housing within the jurisdictions of other public housing authorities. One of the few options that may be available to residents in communities with limited rental housing stock is replacement housing that is owned by a family member, which is currently prohibited under 24 CFR Part 982. The Committee supports the intent of the rule, which is to reduce the potential for fraud and abuse under the Section 8 program, however there are limited circumstances where an exception to the regulatory prohibition may be warranted. Therefore, the Committee encourages the Department to waive the prohibition under 24 CFR Part 982 on a case-by-case basis in emergency circumstances where a resident has been displaced due to uninhabitable conditions, there are no other safe and affordable housing options within the public housing agency's jurisdiction, and moving outside of the PHA's jurisdiction would place an undue burden on the resident. Housing rented under such a waiver must continue to meet all other requirements for housing assistance payment contracts.

Public Housing Receiverships.—The Committee directs the Department to report quarterly during fiscal year 2018 to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations on the status of public housing agencies under receivership, including factors that informed the receivership such as physical and financial scores, deficiencies with internal controls, and other information demonstrating why HUD believes PHAs are unable to effectively oversee their business operations. This report shall also include an identification of funding resources and technical assistance provided to the PHA for the purpose of bringing it out of receivership, and future steps HUD will take to address deficiencies in an effort to return the respective PHAs to local control.

Cash Management.—The Committee is aware that the Department continues to work on implementing improved cash management for public housing agencies. The Department is reminded that effective cash management policies will require coordinated efforts and transparency across offices.

Lead-Based Paint.—In fiscal year 2017 the Committee included \$25,000,000 to help PHAs address lead-based paint hazards in public housing units, to ensure the physical condition of units meet the criteria set forth in HUD's amended blood lead level standards. This funding will be competitively awarded to PHAs for lead in-

spectations, risk assessments, interim controls and abatements, and will provide greater protections for more than 1,000 children under the age of 6 living in public housing. As the Department develops the notice of funding availability for this competition, the Committee encourages the Office of Public Housing Investments [OPHI] to consult with the Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes in the design of the initiative to ensure the competition meets the standards set-forth in HUD’s lead-based paint regulations. Further, the Committee expects the Department to work with PHAs to ensure that the initiative reflects the unique needs of the industry. The Committee continues to strongly encourage HUD to work with PHAs, their maintenance staff, and tenants to help ensure potential lead-based paint risks are identified and addressed expeditiously.

PUBLIC HOUSING OPERATING FUND

Appropriations, 2017	\$4,400,000,000
Budget estimate, 2018	3,900,000,000
Committee recommendation	4,500,000,000

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

This account provides funding for the payment of operating subsidies to approximately 3,100 PHAs (except tribally designated housing entities) with a total of approximately 1.2 million units under management in order to augment rent payments by residents in order to provide sufficient revenues to meet reasonable operating costs.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$4,500,000,000 for the public housing operating fund, which is \$600,000,000 more than the budget request and \$100,000,000 more than the fiscal year 2017 enacted level.

Regulatory Relief.—The Committee recognizes the growing demand placed on small-and medium-sized public housing agencies across the Nation. Given this recognition, the Committee believes that small agencies may face disproportionate regulatory burdens and the Department should simplify monitoring and compliance requirements. The Committee continues to urge HUD to eliminate excessive paperwork and administrative requirements and develop opportunities that achieve new efficiencies in management and operations for small public housing agencies. The Committee directs HUD to report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations on recommendations for statutory and regulatory relief for small- to medium-sized PHAs within 120 days of enactment of this act.

Operating Fund Adjustment Factors.—The Committee is concerned that the Department’s current methodology for calculating formula income and utility expenses for PHAs does not accurately reflect the reality that many experience locally. This is especially true for those PHAs that serve a large elderly or disabled populations, or operate on a utility that is of higher cost than other parts of the country. The Committee appreciates that the Department takes seriously concerns raised by PHAs and is reviewing its

data and evaluating alternative approaches. The Committee directs the Department to report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations 30 days after enactment of this act on alternative methodologies for calculating PHA formula income for purposes of Operating Fund eligibility.

CHOICE NEIGHBORHOODS INITIATIVE

Appropriations, 2017	\$137,500,000
Budget estimate, 2018	
Committee recommendation	50,000,000

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Choice Neighborhoods initiative provides competitive grants to transform impoverished neighborhoods into functioning, sustainable, mixed-income neighborhoods with co-location of appropriate services, schools, public assets, transportation options, and access to jobs or job training. Choice Neighborhoods grants fund the preservation, rehabilitation, and transformation of public and HUD-assisted housing, as well as their neighborhoods. Grantees include PHAs, tribes, local governments, and nonprofit organizations. For-profit developers may also apply in partnership with another eligible grantee. Grant funds can be used for resident and community services, community development and affordable housing activities in surrounding communities. Grantees undertake comprehensive local planning with input from residents and the community.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$50,000,000 for the Choice Neighborhoods initiative. This amount is \$87,500,000 less than the fiscal year 2017 enacted level and \$50,000,000 more than the budget request. Of the total amount provided, not less than \$25,000,000 shall be awarded to projects where PHAs are the lead applicant, and no more than \$5,000,000 may be used for planning, including planning and action, grants.

Choice Neighborhoods builds on the HOPE VI program by expanding the pool of eligible grantees and allowing funding to be used for HUD-owned or -assisted housing, as well as the surrounding community. Inherent to the Choice Neighborhoods initiative is the understanding that community transformation requires more than replacing housing. The creation of vibrant, sustainable communities also requires greater access to transportation, jobs and services that will increase opportunities for community residents. However, HUD funding cannot support all of these activities without strong public-private partnerships. The Committee continues to be encouraged by the ability of Choice Neighborhood grantees to leverage significant resources with their grant awards, to expand opportunities for residents living in Choice Neighborhoods sites.

The Committee notes that successful community planning brings together multiple partners and funding sources that aid in community transformation. The Committee continues to direct the Secretary to give priority consideration to grantees that have been previously awarded planning grants when making implementation grant awards.

FAMILY SELF-SUFFICIENCY

Appropriations, 2017	\$75,000,000
Budget estimate, 2018	75,000,000
Committee recommendation	75,000,000

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Family Self-Sufficiency [FSS] program provides funding to help Housing Choice Voucher, project-based Section 8, and Public Housing residents achieve self-sufficiency and economic independence. The FSS program is designed to provide service coordination through community partnerships that link residents with employment assistance, job training, child care, transportation, financial literacy, and other supportive services. The funding will be allocated through one competition to eligible PHAs to support service coordinators who will serve both public housing and vouchers residents.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$75,000,000 for the FSS program in fiscal year 2018, an amount equal to the fiscal year 2017 enacted level and the budget request.

The Committee strongly supports the FSS program, which helps provide public housing and Section 8 residents with the tools to improve their lives and achieve self-sufficiency. In fiscal year 2014, the Committee combined Section 8 voucher and public housing FSS programs so that public housing agencies could manage one unified program. Since fiscal year 2015, the Committee has included language expanding the program to serve residents living in project-based Section 8 housing. This authority allows property owners to create escrow accounts and fund service coordinators with residual receipts. As a result of this language, HUD is working with project-based Section 8 property owners on the implementation of FSS at select properties. As the program expands to additional project-based Section 8 properties, the Committee expects HUD to continue to hold webinars, trainings, and share best-practices for property owners currently operating and seeking to implement a new FSS program. Further, the Committee strongly encourages the Department to continue work with PHAs and property owners, including those converting existing FSS programs through the Rental Assistance Demonstration, to ensure they comply with reporting and other program requirements.

NATIVE AMERICAN HOUSING BLOCK GRANTS

Appropriations, 2017	\$654,000,000
Budget estimate, 2018	600,000,000
Committee recommendation	655,000,000

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

This account funds the Indian Housing Block Grant Program, as authorized under title I of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 [NAHASDA]. This program provides a funding allocation on a formula basis to Indian tribes and their tribally designated housing entities to help address the

housing needs within their communities. Under this block grant, Indian tribes use performance measures and benchmarks that are consistent with the national goals of the program, but can base these measures on the needs and priorities established in their own Indian housing plan.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends a total of \$655,000,000 for the Indian Housing Block Grant [IHBG] and Title VI Loan Guarantee programs, of which \$646,000,000 is for IHBG formula grants, \$7,000,000 is for technical assistance, and \$2,000,000 is for credit subsidy to support a Title VI guaranteed loan level not to exceed \$17,391,304. The recommended level of funding is \$1,000,000 more than the amount provided in fiscal year 2017 and \$55,000,000 more than the budget request.

Recognizing the tremendous needs in Indian Country and the limited resources available to address these challenges, the Committee includes a provision limiting the amount of funding a Tribe may receive from the IHBG program to not more than 10 percent. The Committee directs HUD to collect data as part of tribes' Indian Housing Plan submissions on new program activity that is generated due to this provision.

IHBG is a vital resource for tribal governments to address the dire housing conditions in Indian Country, and access to affordable housing remains in a critical state for many tribes across the country. Native Americans living in tribal areas are nearly twice as likely to live in poverty compared to the rest of the Nation. As a result, the housing challenges on tribal lands are daunting. According to the American Housing Survey data for 2013, 16 percent of homes on American Indian reservations and off-reservation trust land are overcrowded, compared to 2 percent of households nationwide. In addition to being overcrowded, 34 percent of Native American housing units suffer from one or more physical problems compared with only 7 percent for U.S. households, on average.

The Committee believes the housing goals for American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians remain a priority. The housing resources provided by this Committee serve communities who are disproportionately low income, more likely to experience homelessness or overcrowded living conditions and unable to utilize traditional lending sources for homeownership. IHBG has aided thousands of individuals and families in the pursuit of safe, affordable housing and the Committee encourages HUD to continue providing appropriate assistance and resources based on continued demonstrable need.

Coordinated Environmental Reviews for Tribal Housing and Related Infrastructure.—In fiscal year 2015, the Committee directed HUD to collaborate with the Council on Environmental Quality and affected Federal agencies, including the Departments of the Interior, Agriculture, Commerce, Energy, Health and Human Services, the Federal Highway Administration, and the Environmental Protection Agency, to develop a coordinated environmental review process to simplify tribal housing development and its related infrastructure needs. The Committee expects HUD to continue to up-

date the Committee on the status and progress of these ongoing efforts.

Technical Assistance.—Limited capacity hinders the ability of many tribes to effectively address their housing needs. The Committee recommendation includes \$7,000,000 for technical assistance needs in Indian country to support the IHBG program, as well as other HUD programs, in order to meet the needs of Native American families and Indian country. The Committee expects HUD to use the technical assistance funding provided to aid tribes with capacity challenges, especially tribes receiving small grant awards. The funding should be used for training, contract expertise, and other services necessary to improve data collection, increase leveraging, and address other needs identified by tribes. The Committee also expects that these technical assistance funds will be provided to both national and regional organizations with experience in providing technical assistance that reflects the unique needs and culture of Native Americans.

INDIAN HOUSING LOAN GUARANTEE FUND PROGRAM ACCOUNT

	Program account	Limitation on guaranteed loans
Appropriations, 2017	\$7,227,000	\$1,762,683,000
Budget estimate, 2018 .....	.....	.....
Committee recommendation	1,000,000	270,270,270

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

This program provides access to private financing for Indian families, Indian tribes, and their tribally designated housing entities that otherwise could not acquire housing financing because of the unique status of Indian trust land. HUD continues to be the largest single source of financing for housing in tribal communities. This program makes it possible to promote sustainable reservation communities by providing access to financing for higher income Native Americans to achieve homeownership within their Native communities. As required by the Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990, this account includes the subsidy costs associated with the loan guarantees authorized under this program.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$1,000,000 in program subsidies to support a loan level of \$270,270,270. This subsidy amount is \$6,227,000 less than the fiscal year 2017 enacted subsidy level and \$1,000,000 more than the budget request.

NATIVE HAWAIIAN HOUSING BLOCK GRANT

Appropriations, 2017	\$2,000,000
Budget estimate, 2018 .....	.....
Committee recommendation	1,000,000

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Hawaiian Homelands Homeownership Act of 2000 created the Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant program to provide grants to the State of Hawaii Department of Hawaiian Home

Lands [DHHL] for housing and housing-related assistance, in order to develop, maintain, and operate affordable housing for eligible low-income Native Hawaiian families. As one of the United States' indigenous people, Native Hawaiian people have a unique relationship with the Federal Government.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$1,000,000 for the Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant Program, which is \$1,000,000 less than the fiscal year 2017 enacted level and \$1,000,000 more than the budget request.

The Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant Program [NHHBG] provides funding for affordable housing activities on Hawaiian home lands to eligible Native Hawaiian families. This program is necessary given the general living conditions and poverty rates for Native Hawaiians. According to the 2011–2013 American Community Survey, approximately 19 percent of Native Hawaiian households were overcrowded compared to 3.3 percent of all households in the United States, and about 18.4 percent of Native Hawaiians in Hawaii live in poverty. According to HUD's 2017 Housing Needs of Native Hawaiians report, Native Hawaiians are overrepresented in Hawaii's homeless population.

Hawaiian home lands are dispersed throughout the Hawaiian Islands and are often in less desirable areas with steep terrain that is difficult to access and develop. The challenges involved with development of this raw land add to the already high cost of construction in the State. Project development is a lengthy process that involves complex environmental reviews with strict water resource requirements, procurement of construction contracts, and installation of entire public works systems. Development in several Hawaiian home land areas has been halted after the discovery of unexploded ordinance and DHHL is working with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to identify and remediate trust lands affected. These challenges have impeded the DHHL's ability to advance the traditional model of single housing family community developments. The Committee remains concerned that this traditional housing model does not address the severe housing needs of the 34,100 low-income Native Hawaiian households that are eligible for assistance under the NHHBG program. The Committee directs HUD to ensure that the funds provided are administered to maximize the provision of affordable housing through the construction of high density, multi-family affordable housing and rental units, as well as housing counseling services and the rehabilitation of housing on Native Hawaiian home lands that do not meet safe and sanitary housing building standards.

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONS WITH AIDS

Appropriations, 2017	\$356,000,000
Budget estimate, 2018	330,000,000
Committee recommendation	330,000,000

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS [HOPWA] program provides States and localities with resources and incentives to devise long-term, comprehensive strategies for meeting the housing and supportive service needs of persons living with HIV/AIDS and their families.

By statute, 90 percent of formula-appropriated funds are distributed to qualifying States and metropolitan areas on the basis of the number of living HIV and living AIDS cases, as well as poverty and local housing cost factors. The remaining 10 percent of funds are awarded through a national competition, with priority given to the renewal of funding for expiring agreements consistent with appropriations act requirements.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$330,000,000 for the Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS [HOPWA] program. This level of funding is equal to the President’s budget request and \$26,000,000 less than the fiscal year 2017 enacted level. The Committee continues to include language requiring HUD to allocate these funds in a manner that preserves existing HOPWA programs, to the extent that those programs are determined to be meeting the needs of persons with HIV/AIDS.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUND

Appropriations, 2017	\$3,060,000,000
Budget estimate, 2018	
Committee recommendation	3,060,000,000

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Under title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, the Department is authorized to award block grants to units of general local government and States for the funding of local community development programs. A wide range of physical, economic, and social development activities are eligible with spending priorities determined at the local level, but the law enumerates general objectives which the block grants are designed to fulfill, including adequate housing, a suitable living environment, and expanded economic opportunities, principally for persons of low and moderate income. Grant recipients are required to use at least 70 percent of their block grant funds for activities that benefit low- and moderate-income persons.

Funds are distributed to eligible recipients for community development purposes utilizing the higher of two objective formulas, one of which gives somewhat greater weight to the age of housing stock. Of the funds appropriated, 70 percent are distributed to entitlement communities and 30 percent are distributed to nonentitlement communities after deducting designated amounts for insular areas.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee has provided \$3,000,000,000 for Community Development Block Grants [CDBG]. The recommended amount is

\$3,000,000,000 above the budget request and equal to the fiscal year 2017 enacted level. CDBG funding provides States and entitlement communities with resources that allow them to undertake a wide range of community development activities, including public infrastructure improvements, housing rehabilitation and construction, job creation and retention, and public services that primarily benefit low and moderate income persons. The CDBG program supports homeownership, housing rehabilitation, public improvements and economic development projects while encouraging additional local investment. From fiscal year 2005–2016, CDBG has assisted more than 1.3 million households rehabilitate their homes, provided down payment and closing cost assistance to qualified home buyers, and assisted homeowners with lead-based paint abatement. In addition, since 2005, the program has assisted in the creation and retention of more than 387,109 economic development-related jobs in low-income and moderate-income communities and provided public services benefitting over 133 million people. For every \$1.00 of CDBG Federal investment leverages another \$3.65 in non-CDBG funding. Urban and rural communities rely on this funding to serve their most vulnerable residents, and where residents experience economic hardship. This program is vital to our nation's downtown and neighborhood revitalization efforts, and the Committee believes that every effort must be made to protect this essential funding mechanism.

The flexibility associated with CDBG enables State and local governments to tailor solutions to effectively meet the unique needs of their communities. The Committee notes the importance of States and local grantees meeting the program's three national objectives, as they utilize the program's resources to address a wide range of community needs. As HUD works with communities to determine eligible activities that meet the national objective of benefiting low- and moderate-income persons, the Committee encourages the Department to extend flexibility for rural communities under 1,000 residents to use alternate sources of data to establish Low-Moderate Income Survey Data [LMISD] when American Community Survey [ACS] data is considered by the Community Development Block Grant applicant to be unreliable.

The Committee recommends \$60,000,000 for grants to Indian Tribes for essential economic and community development activities, which is \$60,000,000 above the budget request and equal to the fiscal year 2017 enacted level.

To ensure the program remains flexible, but also accountable and transparent, the Committee recommendation continues provisions in bill language that prohibit any community from selling its CDBG award to another community and that any funding provided to a for-profit entity for an economic development project funded under this act undergo appropriate underwriting. The Committee has included these provisions to address concerns raised about how program dollars have been used and mitigate risks associated with it.

Procurement Standards for Disaster Grantees.—Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery provides essential funding to States and localities recovering from natural disasters. In prior appropriations, Congress has directed HUD to provide thor-

ough oversight of the auditing and procurement procedures implemented by grantees. In the Disaster Relief Appropriations Act of 2013 (Public Law 113–2), and in subsequent disaster recovery appropriations in fiscal years 2015 and 2016, Congress specifically required HUD to certify that the procurement processes employed by each grantee meet a standard of proficiency. On March 5, 2013, HUD published Notice FR–5696–N–01 clarifying that a proficient standard is one that is equivalent to and in alignment with Federal procurement standards. The Committee believes that as long as HUD provides consistent and rigorous oversight of the procurement processes employed by State and local recipients, an equivalent, though not identical procurement standard that upholds the principles of fair and open competition can prevent Federal dollars appropriated for disaster recovery from being spent irresponsibly. The Committee agrees that this approach provides maximum feasible deference to grantees, particularly States, which is consistent with the CDBG program design.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT LOAN GUARANTEES PROGRAM ACCOUNT

	Program account	Limitation on guaranteed loans
Appropriations, 2017	\$300,000,000
Budget estimate, 2018
Committee recommendation	300,000,000

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Section 108 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, authorizes the Secretary to issue Federal loan guarantees of private market loans used by entitlement and non-entitlement communities to cover the costs of acquiring real property, rehabilitation of publicly owned real property, housing rehabilitation, and other economic development activities.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommendation provides a loan level guarantee of \$300,000,000 which is equal to the fiscal year 2017 enacted level and \$300,000,000 above the budget request. The Committee requires HUD to collect fees to offset credit subsidy costs such that the program operates at a zero credit subsidy cost.

This program enables CDBG recipients to use their CDBG dollars to leverage financing for economic development projects, community facilities, and housing rehabilitation programs. Communities are allowed to borrow up to five times their most recent CDBG allocation.

HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM

Appropriations, 2017	\$950,000,000
Budget estimate, 2018 .....	.....
Committee recommendation	950,000,000

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Title II of the National Affordable Housing Act, as amended, authorizes the HOME Investment Partnerships Program. This pro-

gram provides assistance to States and local governments for the purpose of expanding the supply and affordability of housing to low-income and very low-income people. Eligible activities include tenant-based rental assistance, acquisition and rehabilitation of affordable rental and ownership housing, and housing construction. To participate in the HOME program, State and local governments must develop a comprehensive housing affordability strategy. There is a 25 percent matching requirement for participating jurisdictions, which can be reduced or eliminated if they are experiencing fiscal distress.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$950,000,000 for the HOME Investment Partnerships Program. This amount is equal to the fiscal year 2017 enacted level and \$950,000,000 more than the budget request.

Affordable Housing Needs.—The Committee notes the substantial gains made by HOME in increasing the supply and affordability of housing for low-income families. Since 1992, States and localities have used \$26,000,000,000 in HOME funds to leverage an additional \$117,000,000,000 in public and private resources to build or preserve 1.2 million homes and provide rental assistance to 313,558 families. HOME has been particularly successful in helping extremely low-income families (at or below 30 percent of area median income) who have received 40 percent of assistance for affordable rental housing during the past 5 years. HOME is also a critical part of meeting the supportive housing needs of the low-to-moderate income individuals and families, including veterans, persons with disabilities and seniors. In addition, it is the only Federal housing grant program exclusively focused on providing States with the flexible financing needed to address our most pressing housing needs.

SELF-HELP AND ASSISTED HOMEOWNERSHIP OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM

Appropriations, 2017	\$54,000,000
Budget estimate, 2018	
Committee recommendation	54,000,000

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Self-Help and Assisted Homeownership Opportunity Program is comprised of the Self-Help Homeownership Opportunity Program [SHOP], which assists low-income homebuyers willing to contribute “sweat equity” toward the construction of their houses. These funds increase nonprofit organizations’ ability to leverage funds from other sources. This account also includes funding for the Capacity Building for Community Development and Affordable Housing Program, as well as assistance to rural communities, as authorized under sections 6301 through 6305 of Public Law 110–246. These programs assist in the development of the capacity of nonprofit community development organizations to carry out community development and affordable housing projects. This account also provides funding for the rehabilitation and modification of the homes of veterans, who are low-income or disabled, as authorized by section 1079 of Public Law 113–291.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$54,000,000 for the Self-Help and Assisted Homeownership Opportunity Program, which is equal to the fiscal year 2017 enacted level and \$54,000,000 more than the budget request. The Committee rejects the Administration’s proposal to eliminate this account. The Committee recommendation includes \$10,000,000 for SHOP, as authorized under section 11 of the Housing Opportunity Extension Act of 1996; \$35,000,000 for capacity building, as authorized by section 4 of the HUD Demonstration Act of 1993; \$5,000,000 to carry out capacity building activities in rural communities; and \$4,000,000 for a program to rehabilitate and modify housing for veterans, who are low-income or disabled. The Committee notes that funding for technical assistance is being provided under the Office of Policy Development and Research and directs that funds available for the Section 4 program be used solely for capacity building activities.

The Rural Capacity Building Program is intended for truly national organizations. For the purposes of the National Rural Capacity Building Notification of Funding Availability [NOFA], the Committee directs HUD to define an eligible national organization as a nonprofit entity that has ongoing experience in rural housing, including experience working with rural housing organizations, local governments, and Indian tribes, as evidenced by past and continuing work in one or more States in eight or more of HUD’s Federal regions.

Delays in Assistance for Veterans.—The Committee is extremely concerned that HUD has not yet published a NOFA for the Home Rehabilitation and Modification Pilot Program for Disabled or Low-Income Veterans. In the fiscal year 2015 National Defense Authorization Act, Congress directed HUD to establish a program to award grants to nonprofit organizations to rehabilitate and modify the homes of veterans to, among other things, make them more accessible, including installing wheelchair ramps and accessible bathroom fixtures. Over the previous two fiscal years, the Committee has provided a total of \$9,700,000 for this program, and HUD has not yet taken the needed actions to help some of the 3.9 million veterans in the United States with a service-connected disability or the nearly 1.5 million veterans living in poverty. The Committee directs HUD to publish a NOFA for this program within 90 days of enactment of this act and to award funds provided for this program within 180 days of enactment of this act.

HOMELESS ASSISTANCE GRANTS

Appropriations, 2017	\$2,383,000,000
Budget estimate, 2018	2,250,000,000
Committee recommendation	2,456,000,000

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Homeless Assistance Grants Program provides funding to break the cycle of homelessness and to move homeless persons and families to permanent housing. This is done by providing rental assistance, emergency shelter, transitional and permanent housing, prevention, rapid re-housing, and supportive services to homeless

persons and families or those at risk of homelessness. The emergency solutions grant program is a formula grant program, while the Continuum of Care and Rural Housing Stability Programs are competitive grants. Homeless assistance grants provide Federal support to the Nation's most vulnerable populations. These grants assist localities in addressing the housing and service needs of a wide variety of homeless populations while developing coordinated Continuum of Care [CoC] systems that ensure the support necessary to help those who are homeless attain housing and move toward self-sufficiency.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$2,456,000,000 for Homeless Assistance Grants in fiscal year 2018. This amount is \$206,000,000 above the President's request, and \$73,000,000 above the fiscal year 2017 enacted level.

As part of the Committee recommendation, at least \$2,099,000,000 will support the Continuum of Care Program, including the renewal of existing projects, and the Rural Housing Stability Assistance Program. Based on the renewal burden, HUD may also support planning and other activities authorized by the HEARTH Act. The recommendation also includes at least \$270,000,000 for the emergency solutions grants program [ESG].

The Committee continues to support HUD's efforts to leverage existing housing resources, such as Section 8 vouchers, to serve people experiencing homelessness and supports replacing existing, underperforming projects with new projects.

The Committee is aware that while most States witnessed a decrease in the number of people experiencing homelessness between 2015 and 2016, some States and the District of Columbia experienced a significant increase in homeless populations. It is the belief of the Committee that HUD should continue to support the implementation of comprehensive and proven approaches to serving people experiencing homelessness in order to allow CoCs to meet their goals of preventing and ending homelessness, which in certain cases may include not only permanent supportive housing and rapid rehousing, but transitional housing as well. Therefore, if funds remain available in this account after meeting renewal demands and funding ESG, HUD may use it for new projects, including transitional housing, provided that such projects are targeted to areas with the greatest need, as measured by data on homelessness.

Addressing the Needs of Survivors of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault.—Victims and survivors of domestic violence and assault, particularly women and children, often flee unsafe circumstances and seek refuge through emergency shelter or transitional housing programs in order to avoid homelessness. The Committee recognizes the nexus between experiences of domestic violence and homelessness, as well as how access to housing and services can serve as an effective bridge between a person leaving an abusive and dangerous environment and finding stable housing. While permanent housing serves as a stable platform for preventing and ending cycles of homelessness among survivors, and rapid rehousing has been shown to be an effective method for pro-

viding shorter term assistance, the Committee is also aware that in some communities well-designed transitional housing programs have also been effective in meeting the needs of this population. Although HUD does not penalize effective transitional housing projects that serve survivors of domestic violence through its CoC grant competition, the Committee is concerned that transitional housing and service providers, and CoCs lack the information necessary to make informed funding recommendations that reflect the needs of survivors at the local level. Therefore, the Committee directs the Department to issue clarifying guidance on how transitional housing can be an appropriate model, and an eligible and effective use of funding through the CoC grant competition. The Committee also directs the Department to coordinate with the Department of Justice's Office on Violence Against Women [OVW] on opportunities in communities where CoC program resources can be used with OVW's transitional housing grants to ensure that survivors of domestic and dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking have access to safe and affordable housing and services. The Committee encourages the Department to renew transitional housing projects for domestic violence survivors that have been shown to effectively address survivors' safety and client choice, and to continue funding CoC projects serving domestic violence survivors that allow program participants to obtain permanent housing through tenant-based rental assistance and supportive services. The Committee recommendation also includes \$25,000,000 in competitive CoC grants for rapid re-housing projects and supportive service projects providing coordinated entry, and other critical activities in order to assist survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. The Committee also includes language requiring that such projects be eligible for renewal under the continuum of care program, subject to the same terms and conditions as other renewal applicants. It is the expectation of the Committee that HUD will work with Continuums of Care to ensure that such projects do not supplant projects eligible for renewal as part of the 2018 continuum of care grant competition.

To further understand how to best meet the needs of survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, the Committee directs the Department to submit a report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations within 120 days of enactment of this act that identifies how homeless assistance grants can effectively meet the needs of this population. This report shall address how CoC and ESG resources directed to programs for survivors of domestic violence have been utilized and changed over the last three fiscal years, and include recommendations for how CoCs can be inclusive of and effectively collaborate with survivor housing and supportive service providers. Where appropriate, it should identify measurable criteria that CoCs can use to evaluate how well these programs serve survivors. The report shall also include recommendations on how coordinated entry systems can improve to ensure the safety and confidentiality of this population, without inhibiting a client's choice to secure housing and services.

Data on Youth Homelessness.—The Committee believes an accurate count is critical to understanding the scale of youth homelessness. While the Annual Homelessness Assessment Report [AHAR]

provides Congress and the public with meaningful information on the progress in ending homelessness, other Federal agencies have youth-specific data that can help communities better understand the scope of youth homelessness and housing instability in their area. The Committee continues to direct HUD to incorporate additional Federal data on youth homelessness into the AHAR.

Comprehensive Interventions to Prevent and End Youth Homelessness.—The Committee recommendation includes \$55,000,000 to continue implementation of comprehensive approaches to serving homeless youth, of which \$5,000,000 shall be used to provide technical assistance to grantees.

Guidance Update.—The Committee is concerned with the Department's recent decision to withdraw several resources for housing providers to help them comply with nondiscrimination protections for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender [LGBT] service recipients. The Department reversed its decision to publish a policy requiring HUD-funded emergency shelters to display a poster notifying LGBT residents of HUD's updated policies on discrimination, withdrew a survey to evaluate the LGBT Youth Homelessness Prevention Initiative from the Federal Register, and removed four guidance documents from its website. The Department has indicated that it is determining the effectiveness of these resources before reinstating them. The Committee notes that certain studies find 40 percent of homeless youth identify as LGBT, and transgender individuals experience homelessness at disproportionately high levels compared to the rest of the population. The Committee directs HUD to expedite its review of these resources and, as appropriate, reissue and make publically available all policies, surveys, and guidance within 180 days of enactment of this act.

Clarifying Eligibility and Documentation Requirements for Homeless Youth.—The Committee remains concerned that service providers are turning homeless youth away due to a lack of clarity on HUD's existing eligibility and documentation requirements. While HUD has issued some guidance on how youth qualify for assistance under the current definition, service providers remain challenged with identifying and serving youth who are unaccompanied or head of household, faced with domestic violence, trafficking, or other unsafe circumstances—the most vulnerable and hard-to-reach homeless youth—due to lack of clarity in HUD's regulation and guidance. The Committee continues to hear from service providers that documentation requirements pose a barrier for individuals and families, especially youth, to access HUD programs and services. The Committee includes language that waives the requirement for youth 24 and under to provide third-party documentation to receive housing and supportive services within the Continuums of Care. The Committee strongly believes documentation requirements should not be a basis for denying access to necessary services. The Committee believes the Department shares the goal of effectively addressing youth homelessness and ensuring no youth eligible go unserved where there is the local capacity to house and/or provide services. Therefore, the Committee encourages the Department to continue to clarify program requirements through guidance, notice and webcasts as appropriate.

Performance Partnership Pilot.—The Committee has continued language permitting HUD to partner with other Federal agencies in the Performance Partnership Pilot program, a cross-Federal agency initiative serving disconnected youth through innovative, cost-effective, and outcome-focused strategies. The Committee believes there is a critical role HUD can play in this pilot, especially as communities seek to address the housing and self-sufficiency needs of disconnected youth.

Annual Homeless Assessment Report [AHAR].—AHAR is the result of Congressional directives, beginning in 2001, that directed the Department to collect data on homelessness using the newly implemented Homeless Management Information System [HMIS]. HMIS data, information provided by Continuums of Care, and a point-in-time count of sheltered and unsheltered persons from one night in January of each year informs AHAR. The Committee is encouraged that HUD is sharing homeless data widely, and that Federal, State and local service providers use AHAR to determine needs and develop strategies to address homelessness.

The Committee believes HMIS can be used as a platform for information gathering in other Federal programs. Streamlining data to reflect the various Federal data sources will allow the Federal Government to better understand the scope and needs of homeless populations, to then inform a strategic alignment of Federal services. The Committee directs HUD to incorporate additional Federal data on homelessness into the AHAR. This information is important to ensure that communities develop and implement policies that respond to local needs. To support continued data collection and AHAR, the Committee has included \$7,000,000 to support AHAR data collection and analysis. The Department shall submit the AHAR report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations by August 29, 2018. The Committee further hopes that HUD’s efforts to increase participation in the HMIS effort will lead to improved information about and understanding of the Nation’s homeless.

Renewal Costs.—The Committee directs HUD to continue to include 5-year projections of the costs of renewing existing projects as part of the fiscal year 2019 budget justification. This should include estimated costs of renewing permanent supportive housing.

HOUSING PROGRAMS

RENTAL ASSISTANCE DEMONSTRATION

Appropriations, 2017 .....	.....
Budget estimate, 2018 .....	.....
Committee recommendation	\$4,000,000

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Rental Assistance Demonstration [RAD] was authorized in fiscal year 2012 to preserve public and other multifamily housing. Under existing authorities, PHAs and other owners of rental properties assisted under the Public Housing, Moderate Rehabilitation [Mod Rehab], Moderate Rehabilitation Single-Room Occupancy [Mod Rehab SRO], Rent Supplement [Rent Supp] and Rental As-

sistance Payment [RAP] programs are offered the option to convert their properties to Section 8 contracts.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommendation includes provisions permitting Section 202 PRAC properties to convert to Section 8 contracts. The current contracts are limited to 1 year and impede successfully addressing capital needs for these properties. Conversion to multi-year Section 8 contracts will enable properties to leverage private financing for capital improvements, enabling these properties to remain a source of critical affordable housing for low-income elderly residents. The Committee recommendation also includes \$4,000,000 for the Rental Assistance Demonstration, which is \$4,000,000 more than the fiscal year 2017 enacted level and \$4,000,000 more than the budget request. This funding is limited to providing additional rental subsidy for Section 202 PRAC properties converting to Section 8 contracts that will not be able to successfully convert at the current subsidy amounts.

The Committee recommendation also eliminates the unit cap for public housing conversions, as well as the related deadline for public housing application submissions. In fiscal year 2017, Congress increased the cap by 40,000 units. This increase went into effect in May of 2017 and by June, the Department had a waitlist of over 11,000 units above the new cap. The unit cap makes it difficult for agencies to effectively plan and prioritize their capital activities, and determine if participation is appropriate for their housing portfolios. By eliminating the cap, the Committee intends to eliminate the planning uncertainty PHAs experience related to an incremental cap adjustment.

The Committee recommendation also includes the following changes to facilitate additional conversions of HUD-assisted properties: promotes the preservation of multifamily properties in high-cost areas; standardizes ownership and control requirements for converted Public Housing properties in situations where low-income housing tax credits are used or where foreclosure, bankruptcy, or default occurs; and protects tenants' right to continue occupancy under second component conversions.

PROJECT-BASED RENTAL ASSISTANCE

Appropriations, 2017	\$10,816,000,000
Budget estimate, 2018	10,751,100,000
Committee recommendation	11,507,000,000

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Section 8 Project-Based Rental Assistance provides a rental subsidy to a private landlord that is tied to a specific housing unit, as opposed to a voucher, which allows a recipient to seek a unit, subject primarily to certain rent caps. Amounts in this account include funding for the renewal of and amendments to expiring Section 8 project-based contracts, including Section 8, moderate rehabilitation, and single room occupancy [SRO] housing. This account also provides funds for contract administrators.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Section 8 Project-Based Rental Assistance [PBRA] program supports an estimated 17,400 contracts with private owners of multifamily housing. Through this program, HUD and private sector partners support the preservation of safe, stable and sanitary housing for more than 1.2 million low-income households. Without PBRA, many affordable housing projects would convert to market rates with large rent increases that current tenants would be unable to afford.

The Committee recommends a total appropriation of \$11,507,000,000 for the annual renewal of project-based contracts, of which up to \$285,000,000 is for the cost of contract administrators. The recommended level of funding is \$691,000,000 above the amount provided in fiscal year 2017 and is \$755,900,000 above the budget request. The Committee's recommendation rejects the administration's rental reform proposals, including raising maximum rents to 35 percent of gross income, the establishment of mandatory minimum rents, and the elimination of utility allowance reimbursements. It is unfortunate that the Department is seeking to achieve much of its cost-savings on the backs its tenant population, a significant portion of which is elderly or disabled. The Committee believes that these types of rent reforms are best addressed by the authorizing committees. The decision not to include these controversial rent reforms that have not been subject to authorizing committee vetting and approval results in a renewal need above the President's request. The funding recommendation provides sufficient resources to fully renew all existing affordable housing contracts.

Performance-Based Contract Administrators.—Performance-based contract administrators [PBCAs] are typically PHAs or State housing finance agencies. They are responsible for conducting on-site management reviews of assisted properties; adjusting contract rents; and reviewing, processing, and paying monthly vouchers submitted by owners, among other tasks. The Committee notes that PBCAs are integral to the Department's efforts to be more effective and efficient in the oversight and monitoring of this program, reduce improper payments, protect tenants and ensure properties are well maintained. The Committee in prior years directed the Department to solicit and award PBCA contracts under full and open competition without geographic limitation in accordance with the Competition in Contracting Act and the Federal Acquisition Regulations. The Committee is concerned that proposals to reduce the scope of work performed by PBCAs, diminish the applicability of Federal law, or consolidate PBCAs into regional awards versus State-by-State will have a detrimental effect on the oversight of these HUD-assisted properties and the individuals and families that rely on this critical source of affordable housing. To date HUD has failed to execute this directive. It is imperative that HUD move forward with this solicitation. The Committee believes that fair and open competition is the best way to ensure that the taxpayer receives the greatest benefit for the costs incurred.

Oversight of Property Owners.—The Committee places a priority on providing access to safe, sanitary, and affordable housing to

those most in need. If owners fail to uphold these standards, HUD should hold them accountable. After learning of several properties around the country that suffered from severe physical deficiencies, but were none-the-less able to pass HUD inspection, the Committee strengthened a general provision requiring the Department to take specific steps to ensure that serious defects are quickly addressed. This provision requires the Secretary to take explicit actions if an owner fails to maintain its property, including imposing civil monetary penalties, working to secure a different owner for the property, or transferring the Section 8 contract to another property. In addition to the requirements under this general provision, the Department took several steps to improve its inspections process, including: closing a loophole that allowed condemned units to be excluded from inspection samples; permitting REAC to require owners to make repairs for individual deficiencies even when an overall property receives a passing score; requiring owners to adopt industry standards when making repairs; and training REAC inspectors to recognize industry standards when evaluating whether deficiencies have been corrected. In addition, HUD is considering regulatory and policy changes that would reduce the time it takes to conduct an inspection after a property owner is notified about a failing score and removing the point deductions cap, which limits how much a property's score can be lowered for multiple instances of the same deficiency type. The Committee commends HUD for the steps it has taken to improve responsiveness and accountability and encourages the Department to implement the measures still under consideration described above. It also urges HUD to consider using PBCAs to identify troubled properties early on. Unfortunately, despite enacted changes, the Department's oversight still permits a property cited for multiple code violations by State and local building departments to receive a passing REAC score. While local code violations are factored into the risk assessments that determine which properties are inspected, State and local citations for building code violations do not consistently trigger an immediate response from the Department, which may explain why HUD has been inexcusably caught off guard by media reports of atrocious conditions that have been allowed to persist within its multi-family portfolio. The Committee directs the Department to establish a plan for responding to State and local building inspector findings so that properties with serious outstanding code violations are targeted by REAC and, if conditions leading to those violations are not addressed, those properties do not receive a passing score from HUD.

Unfortunately, the Department has been less than transparent with the Committee about the extent of the problems within its assisted housing portfolio, failing year after year to comply with the Committee's requirement to provide regular reports on its most troubled properties. HUD's refusal to provide this information makes it extremely difficult to assess the Department's performance and to evaluate whether changes and reforms such as those described above are effective. Once again, the Committee requires the Department to provide quarterly reports to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations on projects that receive multiple exigent health and safety violations, physical inspection scores

below 60, or have received an unsatisfactory management and occupancy review within the past 36 months. Such reports shall also include information on when the next inspection of the property will occur, and the Department's plans for resolution of the deficiencies. HUD shall also identify the actions taken to address safety concerns, including the frequency with which civil monetary penalties are imposed, contracts are transferred to another property, or ownership is transferred. In addition, because the Department has consistently failed to respond to this reporting requirement in the past, the Committee has added language to the general provision addressing troubled properties that reduces the appropriations for the Offices of Housing, Executive Offices and CFO each \$50,000 for every day this report is late. The penalty shall apply to each of the quarterly reports due this fiscal year.

HOUSING FOR THE ELDERLY

Appropriations, 2017	\$502,400,000
Budget estimate, 2018	510,000,000
Committee recommendation	573,000,000

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

This account funds housing for the elderly under section 202 of the Housing Act of 1959. Under this program, the Department provides capital grants to eligible entities for the acquisition, rehabilitation, or construction of housing for seniors, and provides project-based rental assistance contracts [PRACs] to support operational costs for such units. Tenants living in section 202 supportive housing units can access a variety of community-based services in order to keep living independently in their communities and age in place.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$573,000,000 for the Section 202 program. This amount is \$70,600,000 more than the level provided in fiscal year 2017 and \$63,000,000 more than the budget request. The Committee recommendation includes \$483,000,000 in new appropriations, in addition to carryover balances and residual receipts, to fully fund all annual PRAC renewals and amendments, and \$90,000,000 for service coordinators and the continuation of existing congregate service grants.

HOUSING FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Appropriations, 2017	\$146,200,000
Budget estimate, 2018	121,300,000
Committee recommendation	147,000,000

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

This account provides funding for housing for persons with disabilities under section 811 of the Cranston-Gonzales National Affordable Housing Act of 1990. Traditionally, the Section 811 program provided capital grants to eligible entities for the acquisition, rehabilitation, or construction of housing for persons with disabilities, as well as project-based rental assistance contracts [PRACs] to support operational costs for such units. Since fiscal year 2012, HUD has transitioned to expanding capacity by providing project

rental assistance to State housing financing agencies or other appropriate entities which act in partnership with State health and human service agencies to provide supportive services, as authorized by the Frank Melville Supportive Housing Investment Act of 2010 (Public Law 111–374).

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$147,000,000 for the Section 811 program. This level is \$25,700,000 more than the budget request and is \$800,000 more than the fiscal year 2017 enacted level. This level of funding, in addition to residual receipts, recaptures, and other unobligated balances, supports all PRAC renewals and amendments. Should the total available resources exceed the need for renewals, the Secretary shall direct such resources to make new awards or to conduct a new competition for project rental assistance to State housing finance agencies.

HOUSING COUNSELING ASSISTANCE

Appropriations, 2017	\$55,000,000
Budget estimate, 2018	47,000,000
Committee recommendation	47,000,000

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Housing Counseling Assistance Program provides comprehensive housing counseling services to eligible homeowners and tenants through grants to non-profit intermediaries, State government entities, and other local and national agencies. Eligible counseling activities include: pre- and post-purchase education, personal financial management, reverse mortgage product education, foreclosure prevention, mitigation, and rental counseling.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$47,000,000 for the Housing Counseling Assistance program, which is equal to the budget request and \$8,000,000 less than the fiscal year 2017 enacted level. These funds will help to provide individuals and families across the country with sound advice to make more informed housing decisions, improve their financial situation, and meet their homeownership goals over time. Specifically, it will support competitive counseling grants and training activities. The network of HUD-approved housing counseling organizations provides a wide variety of counseling services, including assistance with preventing foreclosure and homelessness. In addition, the administrative contract support funding includes resources for financial audits and technical assistance.

The Committee is pleased with HUD’s early insights from its First-Time Homebuyer Education and Counseling Demonstration. The knowledge and skills that consumers gain from this counseling will play an essential role in the continued recovery of the Nation from the foreclosure crisis. That ongoing recovery has been shown in the increase in demand for pre-purchase homeownership counseling and lower need for delinquency prevention counseling.

The Committee continues language requiring HUD to obligate counseling grants within 180 days of enactment of this act, as well

as permitting HUD to publish multi-year NOFAs, contingent on annual appropriations. This should result in administrative savings for HUD and its grantees.

RENTAL HOUSING ASSISTANCE

Appropriations, 2017	\$20,000,000
Budget estimate, 2018	14,000,000
Committee recommendation	14,000,000

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

This account provides amendment funding for housing assisted under the Rental Housing Assistance Program (Section 236) and the Rent Supplement Program.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$14,000,000 for HUD-assisted, State-aided, noninsured rental housing projects, consistent with the budget request. This amount is \$6,000,000 less than the fiscal year 2017 enacted level. The Committee recommendation includes a provision to allow the conversion of these projects to long-term Section 8 contracts, at no additional cost. The Committee hopes that the conversion of these projects, through the Rental Assistance Demonstration, will lead to the eventual elimination of these outdated programs.

PAYMENT TO MANUFACTURED HOUSING FEES TRUST FUND

Appropriations, 2017	\$10,500,000
Budget estimate, 2018	11,000,000
Committee recommendation	11,000,000

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The National Manufactured Housing Construction and Safety Standards Act of 1974, as amended by the Manufactured Housing Improvement Act of 2000, authorizes the Secretary to establish Federal manufactured home construction and safety standards for the construction, design, and performance of manufactured homes. All manufactured homes are required to meet these Federal standards, and fees are charged to producers to cover the costs of administering the act.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends \$11,000,000 to support the manufactured housing standards programs, of which the full amount of \$11,000,000 is expected to be derived from fees collected and deposited in the Manufactured Housing Fees Trust Fund account. No direct appropriation is provided. The total amount recommended is equal to the budget request and \$500,000 more than the fiscal year 2017 enacted level. This increase in funding reflects a significant growth in manufactured housing production and is necessary for the continued oversight and effective administration of this program.

The Committee recommendation provides: not less than \$4,000,000 for payments to State Administrative Agency partners, and not less than \$4,000,000 for the monitoring of manufacturers'

compliance with the construction and safety standards by third-party inspection agencies.

The Committee continues language allowing the Department to collect fees from program participants in the dispute resolution and installment programs, as mandated by the Manufactured Housing Improvement Act of 2000. These fees are to be deposited into the Trust Fund and may be used to support the manufactured housing standards programs, subject to the overall cap placed on the account.

Recreational Vehicle Definition.—The Committee urges HUD to expeditiously complete its rulemaking process concerning amendments to its regulatory definition of a “Recreational Vehicle,” in accordance with the existing December 2014 recommendation of the Manufactured Housing Consensus Committee.

Resident-Owned Cooperative Models.—Two-thirds of the new affordable housing produced in the United States is manufactured housing. This industry serves as an important tool in combatting rising home prices and the growing housing shortage. More than 2.9 million manufactured homes are located in mobile home parks, where residents own their homes, but often do not own the land. This leaves homeowners vulnerable to land cost increases, arbitrary rule enforcement, and land conversion for some other use. It can also result in the eviction or closure of a community, which is very disruptive and can result in thousands of dollars in relocation costs. The resident-owned cooperative model provides a viable means for preserving this crucial source of affordable housing and protecting vulnerable residents from displacement. The Committee notes the recent growth of this cooperative model, and encourages the further expansion of this model nationally as manufactured housing production continues to rise.

FEDERAL HOUSING ADMINISTRATION

MUTUAL MORTGAGE INSURANCE PROGRAM ACCOUNT

	Limitation on direct loans	Limitation on guaranteed loans	Administrative contract expenses
Appropriations, 2017	\$5,000,000	\$400,000,000,000	\$130,000,000
Budget estimate, 2018	5,000,000	400,000,000,000	160,000,000
Committee recommendation	5,000,000	400,000,000,000	130,000,000

GENERAL AND SPECIAL RISK PROGRAM ACCOUNT

	Limitation on direct loans	Limitation on guaranteed loans
Appropriations, 2017	\$5,000,000	\$30,000,000,000
Budget estimate, 2018	5,000,000	30,000,000,000
Committee recommendation	5,000,000	30,000,000,000

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Federal Housing Administration [FHA] fund covers the mortgage and loan insurance activity of HUD mortgage/loan insurance programs. These include the mutual mortgage insurance [MMI] fund, cooperative management housing insurance [CMHI] fund, general insurance [GI] fund, and the special risk insurance

[SRI] fund. For presentation and accounting control purposes, these are divided into two sets of accounts based on shared characteristics. The unsubsidized insurance programs of the mutual mortgage insurance fund and the cooperative management housing insurance fund constitute one set; and the general risk insurance and special risk insurance funds make up the other.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee has included the following amounts for the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Program account: a limitation on guaranteed loans of \$400,000,000,000, a limitation on direct loans of \$5,000,000, and \$130,000,000 for administrative contract expenses. For the GI/SRI account, the Committee recommends \$30,000,000,000 as a limitation on guaranteed loans and a limitation on direct loans of \$5,000,000.

The Committee includes a general provision in the bill lifting the cap on the number of HECM loans that can be insured during fiscal year 2018, only to the extent that the net credit subsidy cost for such insurance does not exceed zero. The Committee directs the Department to take steps to accelerate the property disposition timelines and reduce the costs associated with the disposition of such properties. Such action should ensure there is no disruption in the insuring of mortgages under this section and ensure the mission of the program continues to meet its goals.

The Office of Inspector General published an audit report on October 14, 2016 indicating that FHA overpaid financial institutions, by as much as \$2,230,000,000, due to improperly recording foreclosure and conveyance deadlines. While the Department disputed how much FHA might have actually overpaid, it agreed in general with the findings. The Committee directs the Department to submit within 30 days of enactment of this act, a report identifying the Department's timeline for: completing the rulemaking changes to 24 CFR Part 203 initiated in 2015; development of a strategic technology plan to systematically ensure insurance claims are not overpaid for reasons of paying costs beyond established deadlines; and implementing better controls to identify noncompliance with 24 CFR 203.

The Committee does not include authority for HUD to charge a fee to provide additional funds for FHA's administrative costs as proposed in the budget request. However, the Committee supports the goal of improving FHA's system automation, risk management and quality control efforts and encourages the Department to work with its various stakeholders to determine a sustainable path forward that recognizes the needs of all parties.

GOVERNMENT NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION

GUARANTEES OF MORTGAGE-BACKED SECURITIES LOAN GUARANTEE PROGRAM ACCOUNT

	Limitation on guaranteed loans	Limitation on personnel, compensation and administrative expenses
Appropriations, 2017	\$500,000,000,000	\$23,000,000

	Limitation on guaranteed loans	Limitation on personnel, compensation and administrative expenses
Budget estimate, 2018	500,000,000,000	25,400,000
Committee recommendation	500,000,000,000	24,000,000

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Government National Mortgage Association [Ginnie Mae], through the mortgage-backed securities program, guarantees privately issued securities backed by pools of Government-guaranteed mortgages. Ginnie Mae is a wholly owned corporate instrumentality of the United States within the Department. Its powers are prescribed generally by title III of the National Housing Act, as amended. Ginnie Mae is authorized by section 306(g) of the act to guarantee the timely payment of principal and interest on securities that are based on and backed by a trust, or pool, composed of mortgages that are guaranteed and insured by the FHA, the Rural Housing Service, or the Department of Veterans Affairs. Ginnie Mae's guarantee of mortgage-backed securities is backed by the full faith and credit of the United States. This account also funds all salaries and benefits funding to support Ginnie Mae.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends a limitation on new commitments on mortgage-backed securities of \$500,000,000,000. This level is the same as the budget request and the fiscal year 2017 enacted level. The bill allows Ginnie Mae to use \$24,000,000 for salaries and expenses. This is \$1,000,000 more than the fiscal year 2017 enacted level and \$1,400,000 less than the budget request.

POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH

RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY

Appropriations, 2017	\$89,000,000
Budget estimate, 2018	85,000,000
Committee recommendation	85,000,000

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Title V of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1970, as amended, directs the Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development to undertake programs of research, evaluation, and reports relating to the Department's mission and programs. These functions are carried out internally and through grants and contracts with industry, nonprofit research organizations, educational institutions, and through agreements with State and local governments and other Federal agencies. The research programs seek ways to improve the efficiency, effectiveness, and equity of HUD programs and to identify methods to achieve cost reductions. Additionally, this appropriation is used to support HUD evaluation and monitoring activities and to conduct housing surveys.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$85,000,000 for research, technology, and community development activities in fiscal year 2018. This level is \$4,000,000 less than the fiscal year 2017 enacted level and equal to the budget request. The Committee recommends \$50,000,000 for Core Research and Technology, including: market surveys; research support and dissemination; data acquisition; housing finance studies; research partnerships; and housing technology. In addition, the Committee includes \$35,000,000 for Department-wide technical assistance and critical research beyond the core studies. Of this amount, at least \$25,000,000 is for technical assistance [TA] across HUD programs. The Committee recommendation will continue to support market surveys, such as the American Housing Survey, that are integral to HUD's ability to understand its own programs and also help enhance public and private entities' knowledge of housing conditions in the United States. The Committee encourages the Department to consider providing technical assistance to distressed cities and communities through a network of non-profit or private sector organizations that have a proven track record of providing assistance to multiple cities across various disciplines including economic development, workforce development, fiscal efficiency, and promoting best practices and inter-city assistance.

Of the amount provided for critical research beyond the core studies, the recommendation includes funding for: an evaluation of how PHAs are implementing and using the RAD Choice Mobility option and how implementation varies between PBV and PBRÁ conversions; the final phase of a Choice Neighborhood implementation study; an evaluation of HUD's demonstration authority linking vouchers for homeless youth through the Family Unification Program with the Family Self-Sufficiency program; an analysis of administrative data to compare school readiness and skill development for HUD-assisted children relative to similar unassisted children; and an evaluation of the effectiveness of resiliency funding as part of HUD's response to natural disasters. HUD shall include details on its allocation of these resources in its operating plan.

Fair Market Rents [FMRs].—Fair Market Rents are used across HUD rental assistance programs. However, in certain counties the current methodology does not accurately reflect the current housing market, and additional local area surveys are necessary. The Committee further notes that proposals such as Small Area Fair Market Rents do not fully address the undervaluing of Fair Market Rents in many areas where rents have risen quickly. The Committee encourages HUD to identify and implement alternatives to locally funded rent surveys of areas affected by changing economic conditions and natural disasters. The Committee strongly encourages HUD to expedite its research on improving its FMR estimates, including the potential use of alternative data sources, advertised for rent data, as a means of to improve estimates of rent inflation that occur between the time of the American Community Survey data collection and the current period for FMR estimates. If these data cannot be applied nationally, this research should also determine what alternative data sources HUD would accept from Public

Housing Agencies [PHAs] to demonstrate changing economic conditions as an alternative to locally funded rent surveys. The Committee encourages the Department, to the extent practicable, to work with communities to use local rent survey data made available in the preceding year to inform the calculation of Fair Market Rents. The Committee directs the Department to submit a report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations within 90 days of enactment of this act describing proposals to update the FMR formula to more accurately reflect the current housing market. The Committee strongly encourages HUD to expedite the process for consideration of FMRs and exception payment standards that are requested from PHAs.

FAIR HOUSING AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

FAIR HOUSING ACTIVITIES

Appropriations, 2017	\$65,300,000
Budget estimate, 2018	65,300,000
Committee recommendation	65,300,000

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The fair housing activities appropriation includes funding for both the Fair Housing Assistance Program [FHAP] and the Fair Housing Initiatives Program [FHIP].

The Fair Housing Assistance Program helps State and local agencies to implement title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, as amended, which prohibits discrimination in the sale, rental, and financing of housing and in the provision of brokerage services. The major objective of the program is to assure prompt and effective processing of title VIII complaints with appropriate remedies for complaints by State and local fair housing agencies.

The Fair Housing Initiatives Program is authorized by section 561 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1987, as amended, and by section 905 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992. This initiative is designed to alleviate housing discrimination by increasing support to public and private organizations for the purpose of eliminating or preventing discrimination in housing, and to enhance fair housing opportunities.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$65,300,000 for the Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity [OFHEO]. This amount is equal to the budget request and the 2017 enacted level. Of the amounts provided, \$23,500,000 is for FHAP, \$39,900,000 is for FHIP, and \$300,000 is for the creation, promotion, and dissemination of translated materials that support the assistance of persons with limited English proficiency. The Committee also provides \$1,600,000 for the National Fair Housing Training Academy, and encourages the Department to pursue ways to make the Academy self-sustaining.

Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing [AFFH].—In 2018, HUD anticipates that a substantially higher number of grantees will submit fair housing assessments under the new AFFH rule, as compared to 2017. The Committee continues to support the imple-

mentation of AFFH, but remains concerned that HUD grantees interpret this new rule as a way for the Department to dictate local zoning laws. As a result, the Committee continues to include language prohibiting the Department from undertaking changes to local zoning laws as part of carrying out AFFH and the assessment tool. The Committee strongly encourages HUD to continue providing technical assistance to grantees for compliance and implementation efforts associated with this rule and expects greater collaboration within HUD and across its program offices, to prevent excessive administrative burdens on grantees. The Committee directs the Department to issue clarifying guidance within 60 days of enactment of this act on how grantees can also eliminate excessive burdens at the local level, in order to meet the requirements of AFFH. The Committee further directs HUD to expeditiously issue the tools and templates for communities that choose to conduct a regional analysis, and continue developing streamlined tools for small entitlement CDBG and PHA grantees.

Regulation of Insurance.—In Senate Report 114–243 the Committee propelled HUD to respond expeditiously to a U.S. District Court’s remand which was a result of HUD failing to adequately consider insurance industry concerns in its discriminatory effects rule. On October 5, 2017, HUD issued its response in the Federal Register stating that categorical exemptions or safe harbors for insurance practices are unworkable and inconsistent with the Fair Housing Act, and that the insurance industry’s concerns should be addressed on a case-by-case basis. The Committee remains concerned about the unintended consequences of HUD’s interpretation and urges the Department to address the concerns of the insurance industry as permissible under current law.

OFFICE OF LEAD HAZARD CONTROL AND HEALTHY HOMES

Appropriations, 2017	\$145,000,000
Budget estimate, 2018	130,000,000
Committee recommendation	160,000,000

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Title X of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992 established the Residential Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act, under which HUD is authorized to make grants to States, localities, and Native American tribes in order to conduct lead-based paint hazard reduction and abatement activities in private, low-income housing. Lead poisoning is a significant environmental health hazard, particularly for young children and pregnant women, and can result in neurological damage, learning disabilities, and impaired growth. The Healthy Homes Initiative, authorized under sections 501 and 502 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1970 (12 U.S.C. 1701z–1 and 1701z–2), provides grants to remediate housing hazards that have been scientifically shown to negatively impact occupant health and safety.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$160,000,000 for lead-based paint hazard reduction and abatement activities for fiscal year 2018. This amount is \$30,000,000 above the President’s

budget request and \$15,000,000 above the fiscal year 2017 enacted level. Of the amount provided, \$30,000,000 is for the Healthy Homes Initiative.

Consolidation of Lead Grant Programs.—Lead poisoning disproportionately affects the lives of children from economically-disadvantaged backgrounds and has lifelong consequences that have been shown to severely inhibit healthy development and compromise learning. Children who are exposed to lead hazards are seven times more likely to drop out of school and six times more likely to end up in the juvenile justice system. Exposure to lead-based paint hazards at a young age poses not only serious immediate health consequences, but may permanently jeopardize potential for upward social mobility throughout adulthood. In an effort to ensure that more communities can access funding to address lead-based paint hazards in their low-income housing, the Committee has consolidated HUD's two lead hazard funding programs into a single grant program. This change will assist communities struggling to meet funding match requirements, remove duplicative application requirements for communities seeking to access funding from multiple grant programs, and simplify the award and administration of HUD's lead hazard control grants. This consolidation will establish a single source of funding for lead hazard grants with a single set of application criteria, which will ease the administrative burden both for applicants and the Department.

The Committee remains committed to protecting those children in communities with the highest rates of childhood lead poisoning and the oldest housing stock. Lead-based paint is far more prevalent in older homes and in low-income housing in particular, where maintenance is less robust and paint surfaces are more likely to deteriorate, leading to a heightened risk of exposure from peeling paint. In order to target funding to those communities, the Committee directs HUD to award no less than \$65,000,000 of grants to remediate lead-based paint hazards in low-income housing to those jurisdictions with the highest lead-based paint abatement needs. The Committee notes that this set-aside is a minimum floor and encourages HUD to exceed this threshold when providing assistance to those communities where there is the highest risk. The overall funding level will support lead-based paint hazard reductions in up to 9,100 units, providing safer homes for nearly 32,300 low and very-low income families or individuals, including over 8,400 children under the age of 6.

Grantee Coordination.—Funds received by States and local governments under the Lead-Based Paint Hazard Control Grant Program may be utilized to evaluate and address lead-based paint hazards in Section 8 voucher units. The Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes currently gives preference to grantees that work with public housing agencies to address lead-based paint hazards in Section 8 voucher units. The Committee commends HUD for emphasizing the need to address lead-based paint hazards in Section 8 voucher units when awarding these grants and urges HUD to continue to address these needs in HUD-assisted housing stock in the private market.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY FUND

Appropriations, 2017	\$257,000,000
Budget estimate, 2018	250,000,000
Committee recommendation	250,000,000

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Information Technology Fund finances the information technology [IT] systems that support departmental programs and operations, including FHA Mortgage Insurance, housing assistance and grant programs, as well as core financial and general operations.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$250,000,000 for the Information Technology Fund for fiscal year 2018, which is equal to the budget request and \$7,000,000 less than the fiscal year 2017 enacted level.

The Committee remains supportive of HUD's efforts to modernize its IT systems, which are critical to effectively manage its programs. For years, HUD has been hampered by outdated IT systems that are not integrated, which limit its ability to oversee grantees. In addition, HUD's efforts to work around system limitations to collect information for oversight purposes often results in increased work for grantees who have to input information into multiple systems. While HUD has undertaken efforts to better integrate systems, there is still more work to be done, and IT system integration should remain a top priority for the Department.

Unsanctioned Information Technology Development.—The Committee remains concerned about the development of IT systems outside of the Information Technology Fund. While the Committee understands that limited resources may prompt HUD offices to develop solutions with their own resources, the Committee expects that, at a minimum, OCIO will monitor and oversee the development of any such solutions. The Committee directs the OCIO to monitor the development of new system solutions by every office in HUD to make sure they conform to HUD's enterprise architecture, and will be compatible with systems under development.

GAO Oversight.—The Committee emphasizes the importance of pursuing a strategic approach as HUD continues to improve its IT management. To this end, in order to monitor the Department's progress, in 2012 the Committee instructed GAO to conduct several reviews. In 2013, GAO completed a review of the Department's IT project management practices. The Committee reaffirms its direction to GAO to also evaluate HUD's institutionalization of governance and cost estimating practices. In particular, the Committee remains interested in any cost savings or operational efficiencies that have resulted (or may result) from the Department's improvement efforts. The Committee appreciates the work that GAO has done in this area and believes it has benefited the Committee and the Department. The Committee encourages HUD to take advantage of GAO expertise as it makes further improvements to its IT structure and governance. The Committee notes that the Department has yet to submit plans articulating how the Department is implementing GAO's IT-related recommendations, and identifying sav-

ings it will achieve by retiring legacy systems and shutting off old servers. The Committee directs the Chief Operating Officer and the Chief Information Officer to ensure reports are submitted in a timely manner and include all required information.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

Appropriations, 2017	\$128,082,000
Budget estimate, 2018	126,000,000
Committee recommendation	126,000,000

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

This appropriation will finance all salaries and related expenses associated with the operation of the Office of Inspector General [OIG].

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$126,000,000 for the OIG, consistent with the budget request. This amount of funding is \$2,082,000 less than the fiscal year 2017 enacted level.

Audit Reports.—The Committee requests that the OIG provide copies of all audit reports to the Committee immediately after they are issued, and continue to make the Committee aware immediately of any review which recommends significant budgetary savings.

GENERAL PROVISIONS—DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

(INCLUDING RESCISSION)

The Committee recommends administrative provisions. A brief description follows.

Sec. 201. This section promotes the refinancing of certain housing bonds.

Sec. 202. This section clarifies a limitation on the use of funds under the Fair Housing Act.

Sec. 203. This section requires HUD to award funds on a competitive basis unless otherwise provided.

Sec. 204. This section allows funds to be used to reimburse GSEs and other Federal entities for various administrative expenses.

Sec. 205. This section limits HUD’s spending to amounts set out in the budget justification.

Sec. 206. This section clarifies expenditure authority for entities subject to the Government Corporation Control Act.

Sec. 207. This section requires quarterly reports on all uncommitted, unobligated and excess funds associated with HUD programs.

Sec. 208. This section requires that the administration’s budget and the Department’s budget justifications for fiscal year 2019 be submitted in the identical account and sub-account structure provided in this act.

Sec. 209. This section exempts GNMA from certain requirements of the Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990.

Sec. 210. This section allows HUD to authorize the transfer of existing project-based subsidies and liabilities from obsolete housing to housing that better meets the needs of the assisted tenants.

Sec. 211. This section reforms certain section 8 rent calculations as related to athletic scholarships.

Sec. 212. This section provides allocation requirements for Native Alaskans under the Indian Housing Block Grant program.

Sec. 213. This section eliminates a cap on Home Equity Conversion Mortgages for fiscal year 2018.

Sec. 214. This section requires HUD to maintain section 8 assistance on HUD-held or owned multifamily housing.

Sec. 215. This section clarifies the use of the section 108 loan guaranteed program for nonentitlement communities.

Sec. 216. This section allows PHAs with less than 400 units to be exempt from management requirements in the operating fund rule.

Sec. 217. This section restricts the Secretary from imposing any requirement or guideline relating to asset management that restricts or limits the use of capital funds for central office costs, up to the limit established in QWHRA.

Sec. 218. This section requires that no employee of the Department shall be designated as an allotment holder unless the CFO determines that such employee has received certain training.

Sec. 219. The section requires the Secretary to publish all notices of funding availability that are competitively awarded on the Internet.

Sec. 220. This section limits attorney fees and requires the Department to submit a spend plan to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations.

Sec. 221. This section allows the Secretary to transfer up to 10 percent of funds or \$5,000,000, whichever is less, appropriated under the headings "Administrative Support Offices" or "Program Office Salaries and Expenses" to any other office funded under such headings.

Sec. 222. This section requires HUD to take certain actions against owners receiving rental subsidies that do not maintain safe properties.

Sec. 223. This section places limits on PHA compensation.

Sec. 224. This section extends the HOPE VI program until September 30, 2018.

Sec. 225. This section requires the Secretary to provide the Committee with advance notification before discretionary awards are made.

Sec. 226. This section prohibits funds to be used to require or enforce the Physical Needs Assessment.

Sec. 227. This section prohibits funds for HUD financing of mortgages for properties that have been subject to eminent domain.

Sec. 228. This section prohibits funds from being used to terminate the status of a unit of local government as a metropolitan city, as defined under section 102 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, with respect to grants under section 106 of such act.

Sec. 229. This section allows funding for research, evaluation, and statistical purposes that is unexpended at the time of comple-

tion of the contract, grant, or cooperative agreement to be reobligated for additional research.

Sec. 230. This section prohibits funds to be used for financial awards for employees subject to administrative discipline.

Sec. 231. This section authorizes the Secretary on a limited basis to use funds available under the “Homeless Assistance Grants” heading to participate in the multiagency Performance Partnership Pilots program.

Sec. 232. This section allows program income to be used as an eligible match for 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018 Continuum of Care funds.

Sec. 233. This section permits HUD to provide 1 year transition grants under the continuum of care program.

Sec. 234. This section prohibits section 218(g) of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act from applying with respect to the right of a jurisdiction to draw funds from its HOME Investment Trust Fund that otherwise expired or would expire.

Sec. 235. This section prohibits the use of funds to direct a grantee to undertake specific changes to existing zoning laws as part of carrying out the final rule entitled, “Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing” or the notice entitled, “Affirmatively Further Fair Housing Assessment Tool”.

Sec. 236. This section modifies the Rental Assistance Demonstration included in Public Law 112–55.

Sec. 237. This section prohibits funds from being used to interfere with state and local inspections of public housing units.

Sec. 238. This section maintains current Promise Zone designations and agreements.

NEIGHBORHOOD REINVESTMENT CORPORATION

PAYMENT TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD REINVESTMENT CORPORATION

Appropriations, 2017	\$140,000,000
Budget estimate, 2018	27,400,000
Committee recommendation	140,000,000

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation was created by the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation Act (Title VI of the Housing and Community Development Amendments of 1978, Public Law 95-557). The Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation, operating under the trade name “NeighborWorks America,” helps local communities establish efficient and effective partnerships between residents and representatives of the public and private sectors. These partnership-based organizations are independent, tax-exempt, non-profit entities and are frequently known as Neighborhood Housing Services or mutual housing associations.

Collectively, these organizations are known as the NeighborWorks network. Nationally, over 240 NeighborWorks organizations serve nearly 3,000 urban, suburban, and rural communities in every State, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$140,000,000 for NeighborWorks for fiscal year 2018. This amount is \$112,600,000 more than the budget request and equal to the fiscal year 2017 enacted level. The Committee continues to support the set-aside of \$5,000,000 for the multifamily rental housing initiative, which has been successful in developing innovative approaches to producing mixed-income affordable housing throughout the Nation. The Committee directs NeighborWorks to provide 3 days’ notice prior to the announcement of any grant to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations.

Shared Equity Homeownership.—The Committee recognizes the need for increased Federal investment to promote, expand, and preserve homeownership through financial and housing education and counseling, lending programs, default intervention, and foreclosure prevention. The Committee recommends increased investment to support the growth of the shared equity homeownership model as a promising approach for helping lower income and minority families to achieve sustainable homeownership, while delivering positive economic activity to the surrounding community.

Mortgage Rescue Scams.—In 2009, Congress directed NeighborWorks to develop a national public education campaign to address the rise in loan modification scams. In response, NeighborWorks worked to raise awareness of these scams through public service announcements, public media, and the Internet, and has helped thousands of vulnerable homeowners access legitimate forms of assistance and connect with law enforcement. In recent years, however, loan modification scam activity has declined in the United States, as we continue to emerge from the foreclosure crisis. Additionally, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, which was not yet in existence at the beginning of this campaign, has un-

dertaken a similar initiative. Accordingly, the Committee commends NeighborWorks for their successful efforts in educating consumers and expects NeighborWorks to continue to be responsive to emerging issues raised by its network.

Rural Areas.—The Committee continues to support NeighborWorks’ efforts to build capacity in rural areas. The Committee urges NeighborWorks to continue these efforts.

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

	Appropriation	Crediting offsetting collections
Appropriations, 2017	\$37,000,000	\$1,250,000
Budget estimate, 2018	37,100,000	1,250,000
Committee recommendation	37,100,000	1,250,000

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Surface Transportation Board [STB] was created on January 1, 1996, by the Interstate Commerce Commission Termination Act of 1995 [ICCTA] (Public Law 104–88). The Board is a five-member, bipartisan, decisionally independent adjudicatory body and is responsible for the regulation of the rail and pipeline industries and certain non-licensing regulations of motor carriers and water carriers.

STB’s rail oversight activities include rate reasonableness, car service and interchange, mergers, line acquisitions, line constructions, and abandonments. STB’s jurisdiction also includes certain oversight of the intercity bus industry, pipeline carriers, intercity passenger train service, rate regulation involving noncontiguous domestic water transportation, household goods carriers, and collectively determined motor carrier rates.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends a total appropriation of \$37,100,000. This funding level is equal to the budget request and \$100,000 more than the fiscal year 2017 enacted level. Included in the recommendation is \$1,250,000 in fees, which will offset the appropriated funding, resulting in final appropriation from the general fund estimated at no more than \$35,850,000.

Regulatory Proceedings.—While the STB has made progress in implementing the Surface Transportation Board Reauthorization Act of 2015, the Committee is concerned about a number of pending regulatory proceedings that would reform existing regulations at the STB. These proceedings are more difficult to resolve without all five board members. The Committee encourages the Administration to expeditiously nominate the full complement of board members to the STB, and encourages STB to provide a timely, efficient, and decisive regulatory process.

UNITED STATES INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS

OPERATING EXPENSES

Appropriations, 2017	\$3,600,000
Budget estimate, 2018	570,000
Committee recommendation	3,600,000

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The United States Interagency Council on Homelessness [USICH] is an independent agency created by the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act of 1987 to coordinate and direct the multiple efforts of Federal agencies and other designated groups. The Council was authorized to review Federal programs that assist homeless persons and to take necessary actions to reduce duplication. The Council can recommend improvements in programs and activities conducted by Federal, State, and local government, as well as local volunteer organizations. The Council consists of the heads of 19 Federal agencies, including the Departments of Housing and Urban Development, Health and Human Services, Veterans Affairs, Agriculture, Commerce, Defense, Education, Labor, and Transportation; and other entities as deemed appropriate.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$3,600,000 for the USICH. This amount is \$3,030,000 greater than the budget request and equal to the fiscal year 2017 enacted level. The bill includes language to amend the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act to eliminate USICH's sunset date and make the Council permanent.

USICH supports Federal collaboration and implementation of the Federal strategic plan to prevent and end homelessness. The Council's work on such issues as establishing common definitions of homelessness across programs and consolidating Federal data is helping to breakdown silos and increase Federal collaboration. Its work was recognized by GAO in its February 2012 report on ways to reduce duplication, overlap, and fragmentation in the Federal Government. The Committee is aware that individuals who are homeless or in unstable housing situations are often living with multiple chronic conditions. The link between homelessness and long-term physical and behavioral health conditions is well documented. The Committee has recognized the cost-savings that can be achieved by using evidence-based practices, and has been supportive of such efforts, including through the HUD-VASH program and other permanent supportive housing through HUD's homeless assistance grants program. However, the Committee believes that more can be done to emphasize evidence-based practices in serving other populations. The Committee continues to direct the USICH to improve coordination between HUD, HHS and other Federal agencies, and to help communities use the Homeless Management Information System and other data to target affordable housing and homeless resources to high-need, high-cost families and individuals. The Committee further encourages HUD to work with HHS and other Federal agencies to identify homeless individuals who have high utilization rates for emergency and other public

services, and share strategies for combining affordable housing with health and social support services to improve both housing and health outcomes for these individuals.

Performance Metrics and Cross-Agency Coordination.—USICH leads the coordination of the Federal response to ending homelessness among 19 Federal agencies, as well as State, local, nonprofit and philanthropic organizations. However, the Committee remains concerned that other stakeholders do not fully appreciate the value of the important work that agency has been able to accomplish over time due to the Council's lack of clear output and outcome based performance metrics. The Committee directs the agency to undertake the development of measurable performance goals and metrics that define how USICH accomplishes its mission for inclusion in its fiscal year 2019 Congressional budget justification.

The Committee also directs USICH to develop performance metrics to measure the progress that USICH and its partners have made to address and end homelessness in the 2019 performance and accountability report, as well as provide an update on efforts to improve cross-agency collaboration and coordination on integrating child welfare systems with housing and services provided through HUD and the Department of Health and Human Services in response to youth homelessness; the coordination between continuums of care and the Department of Labor employment programs, the Department of Education and HUD, and the Department of Agriculture with other Federal agencies.

The Committee believes these targeted, data-driven analyses will better educate Congress and the public at-large on the clear outcomes of USICH's work to promote cost-effective policies, and evidence-based practices in urban and rural communities alike. The Committee further directs the agency to report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations within 120 days of enactment of this act on the status of these efforts.

Homeless Youth.—One of the goals of the Federal Strategic Plan is to prevent and end homelessness among youth by 2020. The plan identifies four core targeted outcomes for youth experiencing homelessness—stable housing, permanent connections, education and employment, and social/emotional well-being. These outcomes appropriately identify the multiple needs of youth experiencing homelessness and underscore the importance of comprehensive solutions. To be successful, it is critical to coordinate Federal services and programs at the local, regional, and State levels to ensure these outcomes are met. As such, the Committee recognizes that it can be difficult for local communities, as well as housing and service providers, to navigate different Federal program laws and regulatory requirements. USICH is directed to work with its Federal member agencies to ensure that all homeless-related Federal grant funding solicitations are coordinated and made publically available, a user-friendly document that helps local communities identify and understand the scope of all Federal programs for which homeless youth are eligible. This document shall include detailed descriptions of eligibility criteria, application instructions, and application deadlines and be updated as necessary.

TITLE IV

GENERAL PROVISIONS—THIS ACT

Section 401 prohibits pay and other expenses for non-Federal parties in regulatory or adjudicatory proceedings funded in this act.

Section 402 prohibits obligations beyond the current fiscal year and prohibits transfers of funds unless expressly so provided herein.

Section 403 limits expenditures for consulting services through procurement contracts where such expenditures are a matter of public record and available for public inspection.

Section 404 prohibits the use of funds for employee training unless such training bears directly upon the performance of official duties.

Section 405 authorizes the reprogramming of funds within a budget account and specifies the reprogramming procedures for agencies funded by this act. The Committee rejects the administration's request to transfer budget authority between accounts.

Section 406 ensures that 50 percent of unobligated balances may remain available for certain purposes.

Section 407 prohibits the use of funds for eminent domain unless such taking is employed for public use.

Section 408 prohibits funds in this act to be transferred without express authority.

Section 409 protects employment rights of Federal employees who return to their civilian jobs after assignment with the Armed Forces.

Section 410 prohibits the use of funds for activities not in compliance with the Buy American Act.

Section 411 prohibits funding for any person or entity convicted of violating the Buy American Act.

Section 412 prohibits funds for first-class airline accommodation in contravention of section 301–10.122 and 301–10.123 of title 41 CFR.

Section 413 prohibits funds from being used for the approval of a new foreign air carrier permit or exemption application if that approval would contravene United States law or article 17 bis of the U.S.-E.U.-Iceland-Norway Air Transport Agreement and specifies that nothing in this section shall prohibit, restrict, or preclude the Secretary of DOT from granting a permit or exemption where such authorization is consistent with the U.S.-E.U.-Iceland-Norway Air Transport Treaty and the U.S. law.

Section 414 restricts the number of employees that agencies funded in this act may send to international conferences.

Section 415 prohibits funds to agencies unless they are in compliance with the Presidential Memorandum—Federal Fleet Performance, dated May 24, 2011.

Section 416 prohibits the Surface Transportation Board from charging filing fees for rate or practice complaints that are greater than the fees authorized for district court civil suits.

Section 417 prohibits funds from being used to privatize air traffic control.

Section 418 prohibits funds from denying an Inspector General timely access to any records, documents, or other materials available to the department or agency over which that Inspector General has responsibilities, or to prevent or impede that Inspector General's access.

COMPLIANCE WITH PARAGRAPH 7, RULE XVI, OF THE STANDING RULES OF THE SENATE

Paragraph 7 of rule XVI requires that Committee reports on general appropriations bills identify each Committee amendment to the House bill "which proposes an item of appropriation which is not made to carry out the provisions of an existing law, a treaty stipulation, or an act or resolution previously passed by the Senate during that session."

The Committee is filing an original bill, which is not covered under this rule, but reports this information in the spirit of full disclosure.

The Committee recommends funding for the following programs or activities which currently lack authorization for fiscal year 2018:

TITLE I—DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

National Infrastructure Investments
Federal Aviation Administration
Maritime Administration

TITLE II—DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Rental Assistance Programs
Indian Housing Block Grants
Indian Housing Loan Guarantee Fund
Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant
Housing Opportunity for Persons with AIDS
Community Development Fund
Community Development Loan Guarantee
Home Investment Partnerships Program
Choice Neighborhoods Initiatives
Self-Help Homeownership Opportunity Program
Homeless Assistance
Housing for the Elderly
Housing for Persons with Disabilities
FHA General and Special Risk Program Account
GNMA Mortgage Backed Securities Loan Guarantee Program Account
Policy Development and Research
Fair Housing Activities, Fair Housing Program
Lead Hazard Reduction Program
Salaries and Expenses

TITLE III—RELATED AGENCIES

Access Board
National Transportation Safety Board

COMPLIANCE WITH PARAGRAPH 7(C), RULE XXVI OF THE
STANDING RULES OF THE SENATE

Pursuant to paragraph 7(c) of rule XXVI, on July 27, 2017, the Committee ordered favorably reported a bill (S. 1655) making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2018, and for other purposes, provided, that the bill be subject to amendment and that the bill be consistent with the subcommittee funding guidance, and provided that the Chairman of the Committee or his designee be authorized to offer the substance of the original bill as a Committee amendment in the nature of a substitute to the House companion measure, by a recorded vote of 31–0, a quorum being present. The vote was as follows:

Yeas	Nays
Chairman Cochran	
Mr. McConnell	
Mr. Shelby	
Mr. Alexander	
Ms. Collins	
Ms. Murkowski	
Mr. Graham	
Mr. Blunt	
Mr. Moran	
Mr. Hoeven	
Mr. Boozman	
Mrs. Capito	
Mr. Lankford	
Mr. Daines	
Mr. Kennedy	
Mr. Rubio	
Mr. Leahy	
Mrs. Murray	
Mrs. Feinstein	
Mr. Durbin	
Mr. Reed	
Mr. Tester	
Mr. Udall	
Mrs. Shaheen	
Mr. Merkley	
Mr. Coons	
Mr. Schatz	
Ms. Baldwin	
Mr. Murphy	
Mr. Manchin	
Mr. Van Hollen	

COMPLIANCE WITH PARAGRAPH 12, RULE XXVI OF THE
STANDING RULES OF THE SENATE

Paragraph 12 of rule XXVI requires that Committee reports on a bill or joint resolution repealing or amending any statute or part of any statute include “(a) the text of the statute or part thereof which is proposed to be repealed; and (b) a comparative print of that part of the bill or joint resolution making the amendment and of the statute or part thereof proposed to be amended, showing by stricken-through type and italics, parallel columns, or other appropriate typographical devices the omissions and insertions which would be made by the bill or joint resolution if enacted in the form recommended by the committee.”

In compliance with this rule, the following changes in existing law proposed to be made by the bill are shown as follows: existing law to be omitted is enclosed in black brackets; new matter is printed in italic; and existing law in which no change is proposed is shown in roman.

TITLE 23—HIGHWAYS

CHAPTER 1—FEDERAL-AID HIGHWAYS

§ 149. Congestion mitigation and air quality improvement program

(m) OPERATING ASSISTANCE.—A State may obligate funds apportioned under section 104(b)(4) in an area of such State that is otherwise eligible for obligations of such funds for operating costs under chapter 53 of title 49 or on a system for which CMAQ funding was made available, obligated or expended in fiscal year 2012, or on a State-Supported Amtrak route with a valid cost-sharing agreement under section 209 of the Passenger Rail Investment and Improvement Act of 2008 and no current nonattainment areas under subsection (d), and shall have no imposed time limitation.

TITLE 42—THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE

CHAPTER 8—LOW-INCOME HOUSING

SUBCHAPTER I—GENERAL PROGRAM OF ASSISTED HOUSING

§ 1437v. Demolition, site revitalization, replacement housing, and tenant-based assistance grants for projects

(m) Funding

(1) Authorization of appropriations

There are authorized to be appropriated for grants under this section \$574,000,000 for ~~【fiscal year 2017.】~~ *fiscal year 2018.*

* * * * *

(o) Sunset

No assistance may be provided under this section after ~~【Sep-tember 30, 2017.】~~ *September 30, 2018.*

* * * * *

CHAPTER 119—HOMELESS ASSISTANCE

SUBCHAPTER II—UNITED STATES INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON
HOMELESSNESS

§ 11318. Authorization of appropriations

There are authorized to be appropriated [to carry out this subchapter \$3,000,000 for fiscal year 2010 and such sums as may be necessary for fiscal years 2011] *such sums as may be necessary to carry out this title*. Any amounts appropriated to carry out this subchapter shall remain available until expended.

【§ 11319. Termination

The Council shall cease to exist, and the requirements of this subchapter shall terminate, on October 1, 2018.】

§ [11320] 11319. Encouragement of State involvement

(a) State contact persons

Each State shall designate an individual to serve as a State contact person for the purpose of receiving and disseminating information and communications received from the Council, including the bimonthly bulletin described in section 11313(a)(7) 1 of this title.

(b) State interagency councils and lead agencies

Each State is encouraged to establish a State interagency council on the homeless or designate a lead agency for the State for the purpose of assuming primary responsibility for coordinating and interacting with the Council and State and local agencies as necessary.

TITLE 45—RAILROADS

CHAPTER 17—RAILROAD REVITALIZATION AND REGULATORY REFORM

SUBCHAPTER II—RAILROAD REHABILITATION AND IMPROVEMENT
FINANCING

§ 823. Administration of direct loans and loan guarantees

(l) Charges and loan servicing

(1) Purposes

* * * * *

(4) [Safety and operations account] *National Surface Transportation and Innovative Finance Bureau Account, Office of the Secretary*

Amounts collected under this subsection shall—

(A) be credited directly to [the Safety and Operations account of the Federal Railroad Administration] *the National Surface Transportation and Innovative Finance Bureau Account*; and

(2) costs associated with transportation facilities under the jurisdiction of such non-Federal party, including debt service and costs related to the construction, reconstruction, restoration, repair, operation and maintenance of such facilities.

(2) Upon the request of any State Department of Transportation that was authorized to enter into a tolling agreement under section 120(c) of Public Law 100-17 (101 STAT. 159), the Secretary is authorized to modify the agreement entered into under Public Law 100-17, as follows. The Secretary shall authorize the use of excess toll revenues for any other purpose for which Federal funds may be obligated under title 23, United States Code, provided the State—

(A) certifies annually that the tolled facility is being adequately maintained; and

(B) agrees to comply with the audit requirements in section 129(a)(3)(B) of title 23, United States Code.

(3) For the purposes of paragraph (2), “excess toll revenues” means revenues in excess of amounts necessary for operation and maintenance; debt service; reasonable return on investment of any private person or entity that may be authorized by the State to operate and maintain the facility; and any cost necessary for improvement, including reconstruction, resurfacing, restoration, and rehabilitation.

* * * * *

SEC. 1105. HIGH PRIORITY CORRIDORS ON NATIONAL HIGHWAY SYSTEM.

(c) IDENTIFICATION OF HIGH PRIORITY CORRIDORS ON NATIONAL HIGHWAY SYSTEM.—* * *

[(89) United State Route 67 from Interstate 40 in North Little Rock, Arkansas, to United States Route 412.]

(89) I-57 Corridor Extension as follows: In Arkansas, the corridor shall follow United States Route 67 in North Little Rock, Arkansas, from I-40 to United States Route 412, then continuing generally northeast to the State line, and in Missouri, the corridor shall continue generally north from the Arkansas State line to Poplar Bluff, Missouri, and then follow United States Route 60 to I-57.

**CONSOLIDATED AND FURTHER CONTINUING
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2012, PUBLIC LAW 112-55**

**DIVISION C—TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN
DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES**

TITLE II

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

RENTAL ASSISTANCE DEMONSTRATION

To conduct a demonstration designed to preserve and improve public housing and certain other multifamily housing through the voluntary conversion of properties with assistance under section 9

of the United States Housing Act of 1937, (hereinafter, “the Act”), or the moderate rehabilitation program under section 8(e)(2) of the Act, to properties with assistance under a project-based subsidy contract under section 8 of the Act, which shall be eligible for renewal under section 524 of the Multifamily Assisted Housing Reform and Affordability Act of 1997, or assistance under section 8(o)(13) of the Act, the Secretary may transfer amounts provided through contracts under section 8(e)(2) of the Act or under the headings “Public Housing Capital Fund” and “Public Housing Operating Fund” to the headings “Tenant-Based Rental Assistance” or “Project-Based Rental Assistance” (*herein the “First Component”*): *Provided*, That the initial long-term contract under which converted assistance is made available may allow for rental adjustments only by an operating cost factor established by the Secretary, and shall be subject to the availability of appropriations for each year of such term: *Provided further*, That project applications may be received under this demonstration [until September 30, 2020] for fiscal year 2012 and thereafter: *Provided further*, That any increase in cost for “Tenant-Based Rental Assistance” or “Project-Based Rental Assistance” associated with such conversion in excess of amounts made available under this heading shall be equal to amounts transferred from “Public Housing Capital Fund” and “Public Housing Operating Fund” or other account from which it was transferred: [*Provided further*, That not more than 225,000 units currently receiving assistance under section 9 or section 8(e)(2) of the Act shall be converted under the authority provided under this heading:] *Provided further*, That tenants of such properties with assistance converted from assistance under section 9 shall, at a minimum, maintain the same rights under such conversion as those provided under sections 6 and 9 of the Act: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall select properties from applications for conversion as part of this demonstration through a competitive process: *Provided further*, That in establishing criteria for such competition, the Secretary shall seek to demonstrate the feasibility of this conversion model to recapitalize and operate public housing properties (1) in different markets and geographic areas, (2) within portfolios managed by public housing agencies of varying sizes, and (3) by leveraging other sources of funding to recapitalize properties: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall provide an opportunity for public comment on draft eligibility and selection criteria and procedures that will apply to the selection of properties that will participate in the demonstration: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall provide an opportunity for comment from residents of properties to be proposed for participation in the demonstration to the owners or public housing agencies responsible for such properties: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may waive or specify alternative requirements for (except for requirements related to fair housing, nondiscrimination, labor standards, and the environment) any provision of section 8(o)(13) or any provision that governs the use of assistance from which a property is converted under the demonstration or funds made available under the headings of “Public Housing Capital Fund”, “Public Housing Operating Fund”, and “Project-Based Rental Assistance”, under this Act or any prior Act or any Act enacted during the period of conversion of assist-

ance under the demonstration for properties with assistance converted under the demonstration, upon a finding by the Secretary that any such waivers or alternative requirements are necessary for the effective conversion of assistance under the demonstration: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall publish by notice in the Federal Register any waivers or alternative requirements pursuant to the previous proviso no later than 10 days before the effective date of such notice: *Provided further*, That the demonstration may proceed after the Secretary publishes notice of its terms in the Federal Register: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding sections 3 and 16 of the Act, the conversion of assistance under the demonstration shall not be the basis for re-screening or termination of assistance or eviction of any tenant family in a property participating in the demonstration, and such a family shall not be considered a new admission for any purpose, including compliance with income targeting requirements: *Provided further*, That in the case of a property with assistance converted under the demonstration from assistance under section 9 of the Act, section 18 of the Act shall not apply to a property converting assistance under the demonstration for all or substantially all of its units, the Secretary shall require ownership or control of assisted units by a public or nonprofit entity except as determined by the Secretary to be necessary pursuant to foreclosure, bankruptcy, or termination and transfer of assistance for material violations or substantial default, in which case the priority for ownership or control shall be provided to a capable public or nonprofit entity, then a capable entity, as determined by the Secretary, shall require long-term renewable use and affordability restrictions for assisted units, and may allow ownership to be transferred to a for-profit entity to facilitate the use of tax credits only if the public housing agency [preserves its interest] or a nonprofit entity preserves an interest in the property in a manner approved by the Secretary, and upon expiration of the initial contract and each renewal contract, the Secretary shall offer and the owner of the property shall accept renewal of the contract subject to the terms and conditions applicable at the time of renewal and the availability of appropriations each year of such renewal: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may permit transfer of assistance at or after conversion under the demonstration to replacement units subject to the requirements in the previous proviso: *Provided further*, That the Secretary may establish the requirements for converted assistance under the demonstration through contracts, use agreements, regulations, or other means: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall assess and publish findings regarding the impact of the conversion of assistance under the demonstration on the preservation and improvement of public housing, the amount of private sector leveraging as a result of such conversion, and the effect of such conversion on tenants: *Provided further*, That for fiscal year 2012 and hereafter, owners of properties assisted under section 101 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965, section 236(f)(2) of the National Housing Act, or section 8(e)(2) of the United States Housing Act of 1937, for which an event after October 1, 2006 has caused or results in the termination of rental assistance or affordability restrictions and the issuance of tenant protection vouchers under section 8(o) of the Act,

or with a project rental assistance contract under section 202(c)(2) of the Housing Act of 1959, shall be eligible, subject to requirements established by the Secretary, including but not limited to the subordination, restructuring, or both, of any mortgage or other agreements securing a capital advance previously provided by the Secretary under section 202(c)(1) of the Housing Act of 1959 in connection with the conversion of assistance, tenant consultation procedures, for conversion of assistance available for such vouchers or assistance contracts to assistance under a long-term project-based subsidy contract under section 8 of the Act, which shall have a term of no less than 20 years, with rent adjustments only by an operating cost factor established by the Secretary, which shall be eligible for renewal under section 524 of the Multifamily Assisted Housing Reform and Affordability Act of 1997 (42 U.S.C. 1437f note), or, subject to agreement of the administering public housing agency, to assistance under section 8(o)(13) of the Act, to which the limitation under subsection (B) of section 8(o)(13) of the Act shall not apply and for which the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development may waive or alter the provisions of subparagraphs (C) and (D) of section 8(o)(13) of the Act (herein the "Second Component"): Provided further, That contracts provided to properties converting assistance from section 101 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965 or section 236(f)(2) of the National Housing Act located in high-cost areas shall have initial rents set at comparable market rents for the market area: Provided further, That conversions of assistance under the Second Component may not be the basis for re-screening or termination of assistance or eviction of any tenant family in a property participating in the demonstration and such a family shall not be considered a new admission for any purpose, including compliance with income targeting: Provided further, That amounts made available under the heading "Rental Housing Assistance" during the period of conversion under [the previous proviso] the Second Component shall be available for project-based subsidy contracts entered into pursuant to the Second Component: shall be available for project-based subsidy contracts entered into pursuant to the previous proviso: Provided further, That amounts, including contract authority, recaptured from contracts following a conversion under [the previous two provisos] the Second Component, except for conversion of section 202 project rental assistance contracts, are hereby rescinded and an amount of additional new budget authority, equivalent to the amount rescinded is hereby appropriated, to remain available until expended for such conversions: Provided further, That the Secretary may transfer amounts made available under the heading "Rental Housing Assistance", amounts made available for tenant protection vouchers under the heading "Tenant-Based Rental Assistance" and specifically associated with any such conversions, and amounts made available under the previous proviso as needed to the account under the "Project-Based Rental Assistance" heading to facilitate conversion under [the three previous provisos] the Second Component, except for conversion of section 202 project rental assistance contracts, and any increase in cost for "Project-Based Rental Assistance" associated with such conversion shall be equal to amounts so transferred: Provided further, That the Secretary may transfer amounts made

available under the headings “Housing for the Elderly” and “Rental Assistance Demonstration” to the accounts under the headings “Project-Based Rental Assistance” or “Tenant-Based Rental Assistance” to facilitate any section 202 project rental assistance contract conversion under the Second Component, and any increase in cost for “Project-Based Rental Assistance” or “Tenant-Based Rental Assistance” associated with such conversion shall be equal to amounts so transferred: Provided further, That with respect to [the previous four provisos] the Second Component, the Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study of the long-term impact of the fiscal year 2012 and 2013 conversion of tenant protection vouchers to assistance under section 8(o)(13) of the Act on the ratio of tenant-based vouchers to project-based vouchers.

**CONSOLIDATED AND FURTHER CONTINUING
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015, PUBLIC LAW 113-235**

DIVISION K—TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015

TITLE II—DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

PUBLIC AND INDIAN HOUSING

NATIVE HAWAIIAN HOUSING BLOCK GRANT

For the Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant program, as authorized under title VIII of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4111 et seq.), \$9,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2019: *Provided*, That of this amount, \$300,000 shall be for training and technical assistance activities, including up to \$100,000 for related travel by [Hawaii-based] employees of the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

BUDGETARY IMPACT OF BILL

PREPARED IN CONSULTATION WITH THE CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE PURSUANT TO SEC.
308(A), PUBLIC LAW 93-344, AS AMENDED

[In millions of dollars]

	Budget authority		Outlays	
	Committee guidance ¹	Amount in bill	Committee guidance ¹	Amount in bill
Comparison of amounts in the bill with Committee guidance to its subcommittees of amounts for 2018: Subcommittee on Transportation and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies:				
Mandatory				
Discretionary	60,058	60,058	122,276	² 122,276
Security	300	300	NA	NA
Nonsecurity	59,758	59,758	NA	NA
Projection of outlays associated with the recommendation:				
2018				³ 43,532
2019				32,389
2020				15,545
2021				6,499
2022 and future years				9,331
Financial assistance to State and local governments for 2018	NA	34,877	NA	³ 33,192

¹ There is no section 302(a) allocation to the Committee on Appropriations for fiscal year 2018.

² Includes outlays from prior-year budget authority.

³ Excludes outlays from prior-year budget authority.

NA: Not applicable.

Subtotal	156,288	154,344	162,000	+ 5,712	+ 7,656
Subtotal, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration	235,788	230,817	244,000	+ 8,212	+ 13,183
Pipeline safety user fees	- 128,000	- 124,263	- 131,000	- 3,000	- 6,737
Underground Natural Gas Storage Facility Safety Fund user fee	- 8,000	- 8,000	- 8,000		
Emergency preparedness grants:					
Limitation on emergency preparedness fund	(28,318)	(28,318)	(28,318)		
Total, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration	99,788	98,554	105,000	+ 5,212	+ 6,446
Office of Inspector General					
Salaries and expenses	90,152	87,306	92,100	+ 1,948	+ 4,794
Extending the availability of certain payments (Sec. 186 (1))		2,000			- 2,000
Total, title I, Department of Transportation	18,487,487	16,347,839	19,465,641	+ 978,154	+ 3,117,802
Appropriations	(19,344,487)	(16,379,039)	(19,583,357)	(+ 238,870)	(+ 3,204,318)
Rescissions		(- 31,200)			(+ 31,200)
Rescissions of contract authority	(- 857,000)		(- 117,716)	(+ 739,284)	(- 117,716)
Limitations on obligations	(57,725,278)	(58,721,994)	(59,058,994)	(+ 1,333,716)	(+ 337,000)
Total budgetary resources	(76,212,765)	(75,069,833)	(78,524,635)	(+ 2,311,870)	(+ 3,454,802)
TITLE II—DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT					
Management and Administration					
Executive Offices	14,000	14,708	15,645	+ 1,645	+ 937
Administration Support Offices	517,647	517,803	520,190	+ 2,543	+ 2,387
Program Office Salaries and Expenses:					
Public and Indian Housing	216,000	216,633	222,000	+ 6,000	+ 5,367
Community Planning and Development	110,000	107,554	108,300	- 1,700	+ 746
Housing	392,000	365,829	383,000	- 9,000	+ 17,171
Policy Development and Research	24,000	24,065	25,400	+ 1,400	+ 1,335
Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity	72,000	69,808	72,400	+ 400	+ 2,592
Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes	9,353	7,600	8,200	- 1,153	+ 600
Subtotal	823,353	791,489	819,300	- 4,053	+ 27,811
Total, Management and Administration	1,355,000	1,324,000	1,355,135	+ 135	+ 31,135

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017 AND BUDGET ESTIMATES AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018—Continued
[In thousands of dollars]

Item	2017 appropriation	Budget estimate	Committee recommendation	Senate Committee recommendation compared with (+ or -)	
				2017 appropriation	Budget estimate
Public and Indian Housing					
Tenant-based rental assistance:					
Renewals	18,355,000	17,583,826	19,370,000	+ 1,015,000	+ 1,786,174
Tenant protection vouchers	110,000	60,000	75,000	- 35,000	+ 15,000
Administrative fees	1,650,000	1,550,000	1,725,000	+ 75,000	+ 175,000
Sec. 811 mainstream voucher renewals	120,000	107,074	130,120	+ 10,120	+ 23,046
Tribal veterans affairs supportive housing renewals	7,000	7,000	5,000	- 2,000	- 2,000
Veterans affairs supportive housing	40,000	.....	40,000	.....	+ 40,000
Incremental family unification vouchers	10,000	.....	20,000	+ 10,000	+ 20,000
PHA Modernization .....	.....	10,000	.....	.....	- 10,000
Subtotal (available this fiscal year)	20,292,000	19,317,900	21,365,120	+ 1,073,120	+ 2,047,220
Advance appropriations	4,000,000	4,000,000	4,000,000	.....	.....
Less appropriations from prior year advances	- 4,000,000	- 4,000,000	- 4,000,000	.....	.....
Total, Tenant-based rental assistance appropriated in this bill	20,292,000	19,317,900	21,365,120	+ 1,073,120	+ 2,047,220
Public Housing Capital Fund	1,941,500	628,000	1,945,000	+ 3,500	+ 1,317,000
Public Housing Operating Fund	4,400,000	3,900,000	4,500,000	+ 100,000	+ 600,000
Choice neighborhoods	137,500	.....	50,000	- 87,500	+ 50,000
Family self-sufficiency	75,000	75,000	75,000	.....	.....
Native American Housing Block Grants	654,000	600,000	655,000	+ 1,000	+ 55,000
Indian Housing Loan Guarantee Fund Program Account	7,227	.....	1,000	- 6,227	+ 1,000
(Limitation on guaranteed loans)	(1,762,683)	.....	(270,270)	(- 1,492,413)	(+ 270,270)
Spending of prior year balances .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant	2,000	.....	1,000	- 1,000	+ 1,000
Total, Public and Indian Housing	27,509,227	24,520,900	28,592,120	+ 1,082,893	+ 4,071,220

Community Planning and Development						
Housing opportunities for persons with AIDS		330,000			-26,000	
Community Development Fund:						
CDBG formula	3,000,000		3,000,000			+3,000,000
Indian CDBG	60,000		60,000			+60,000
Subtotal	3,060,000		3,060,000			+3,060,000
Community development loan guarantees (section 108):						
(Limitation on guaranteed loans)	(300,000)		(300,000)			(+300,000)
HOME Investment Partnerships Program	950,000		950,000			+950,000
Self-help and Assisted Homeownership Opportunity Program	54,000		54,000			+54,000
Homeless Assistance Grants	2,383,000	2,250,000	2,456,000		+73,000	+206,000
Total, Community Planning and Development	6,803,000	2,580,000	6,850,000		+47,000	+4,270,000
Housing Programs						
Rental assistance demonstration			4,000		+4,000	+4,000
Project-based rental assistance:						
Renewals	10,581,000	10,466,100	11,222,000		+641,000	+755,900
Contract administrators	235,000	285,000	285,000		+50,000	
Subtotal (available this fiscal year)	10,816,000	10,751,100	11,507,000		+691,000	+755,900
Advance appropriations	400,000	400,000	400,000			
Less appropriations from prior year advances	(400,000)	(400,000)	(400,000)			
Total, Project-based rental assistance appropriated in this bill	10,816,000	10,751,100	11,507,000		+691,000	+755,900
Housing for the elderly						
Housing for persons with disabilities	502,400	510,000	573,000		+70,600	+63,000
Housing counseling assistance	146,200	121,300	147,000		+800	+25,700
Rental housing assistance	55,000	47,000	47,000		-8,000	
Manufactured Housing Fees Trust Fund	20,000	14,000	14,000		-6,000	
Offsetting collections	10,500	11,000	11,000		+500	
	(10,500)	(11,000)	(11,000)		-500	
Total, Housing Programs	11,539,600	11,443,400	12,292,000		+752,400	+848,600

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017 AND BUDGET ESTIMATES AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL
 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018—Continued
 [In thousands of dollars]

Item	2017 appropriation	Budget estimate	Committee recommendation	Senate Committee recommendation compared with (+ or -)	
				2017 appropriation	Budget estimate
Federal Housing Administration					
Mutual Mortgage Insurance Program Account:					
(Limitation on guaranteed loans)	(400,000,000)	(400,000,000)	(400,000,000)		
Offsetting receipts	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)		
Proposed offsetting receipts (HECM)	-7,437,000	-7,392,000	-7,392,000	+45,000	
Additional offsetting receipts (Sec. 238)	-97,000	300,000		+97,000	-300,000
Administrative contract expenses	130,000	160,000	130,000		+30,000
General and Special Risk Program Account:					
(Limitation on guaranteed loans)	(30,000,000)	(30,000,000)	(30,000,000)		
Offsetting receipts	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)		
	-464,000	-619,000	-619,000	-155,000	
Total, Federal Housing Administration	-7,868,000	-7,581,000	-7,881,000	-13,000	-300,000
Government National Mortgage Association					
Guarantees of Mortgage-backed Securities Loan Guarantee Program Account:					
(Limitation on guaranteed loans)	(500,000,000)	(500,000,000)	(500,000,000)		
Administrative expenses	23,000	25,400	24,000	+1,000	-1,400
Offsetting receipts	-101,000	-116,000	-116,000		-15,000
Proposed offsetting receipts (HECM)	-1,102,000	-1,560,000	-1,560,000	-458,000	
Additional contract expenses	-21,000	60,000		+21,000	-60,000
	1,000	1,000	1,000		
Total, Gov't National Mortgage Association	-1,200,000	-1,589,600	-1,651,000	-451,000	-61,400
Policy Development and Research					
Research and technology	89,000	85,000	85,000	-4,000	

Fair housing activities	65,300	65,300	65,300	.....	.....	.....
Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity						
Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes						
Lead hazard reduction	145,000	130,000	160,000	+ 15,000	+ 30,000	
Information Technology Fund	257,000	250,000	250,000	- 7,000		
Office of Inspector General	128,082	126,000	126,000	- 2,082		
Total, title II, Department of Housing and Urban Development	38,823,209	31,354,000	40,243,555	+ 1,420,346	+ 8,889,555	
Appropriations	(43,655,709)	(36,322,000)	(45,541,555)	(+ 1,885,846)	(+ 9,219,555)	
Advance appropriations	(4,400,000)	(4,400,000)	(4,400,000)			
Offsetting receipts	(- 9,222,000)	(- 9,357,000)	(- 9,687,000)	(- 465,000)	(- 330,000)	
Offsetting collections	(- 10,500)	(- 11,000)	(- 11,000)	(- 500)		
(Limitation on direct loans)	(10,000)	(10,000)	(10,000)			
(Limitation on guaranteed loans)	(932,062,683)	(930,000,000)	(930,570,270)	(- 1,492,413)	(+ 570,270)	
TITLE III—OTHER INDEPENDENT AGENCIES						
Access Board	8,190	7,928	8,190		+ 262	
Federal Maritime Commission	27,490	26,149	27,490		+ 1,341	
National Railroad Passenger Corporation Office of Inspector General	23,274	23,274	23,274			
National Transportation Safety Board	106,000	105,170	110,400	+ 4,400	+ 5,230	
Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation	140,000	27,400	140,000		+ 112,600	
Surface Transportation Board	37,000	37,100	37,100	+ 100		
Offsetting collections	- 1,250	- 1,250	- 1,250			
Subtotal	35,750	35,850	35,850	+ 100		
United States Interagency Council on Homelessness	3,600	570	3,600		+ 3,030	
Total, title III, Other Independent Agencies	344,304	226,341	348,804	+ 4,500	+ 122,463	
TITLE IV—GENERAL PROVISIONS—THIS ACT						
Unobligated balances (Sec. 417) (rescission)	- 4,000			+ 4,000		
CDBG Disaster Relief (C.R. #2, Public Law 114—254) (emergency)	393,000			- 393,000		
(Disaster relief category)	1,461,000			- 1,461,000		
FHWA Emergency Relief (C.R. #2, Public Law 114—254) (emergency)	1,004,017			- 1,004,017		
Emergency Relief Program (Sec 419) (emergency)	528,000			- 528,000		

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF NEW BUDGET (OBLIGATIONAL) AUTHORITY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017 AND BUDGET ESTIMATES AND AMOUNTS RECOMMENDED IN THE BILL
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018—Continued
[In thousands of dollars]

Item	2017 appropriation	Budget estimate	Committee recommendation	Senate Committee recommendation compared with (+ or -)	
				2017 appropriation	Budget estimate
CDBG Disaster Relief (Sec 420) (emergency)	400,000			-400,000	
Total, title IV, General Provisions This Act	3,782,017			-3,782,017	
Appropriations	(2,325,017)			(-2,325,017)	
Emergency appropriations	(1,461,000)			(-1,461,000)	
Disaster relief category	(-4,000)			(+4,000)	
Rescissions					
Grand total	61,437,017	47,928,180	60,058,000	-1,379,017	+12,129,820
Appropriations	(63,345,750)	(52,928,630)	(65,474,966)	(+2,129,216)	(+12,546,336)
Emergency appropriations	(2,325,017)			(-2,325,017)	
Rescissions	(-4,000)			(+4,000)	
Rescissions of contract authority	(-857,000)	(-31,200)	(-117,716)	(+739,284)	(+31,200)
Advance appropriations	(4,400,000)	(4,400,000)	(4,400,000)		(-117,716)
Disaster relief category	(1,461,000)			(-1,461,000)	
Offsetting receipts	(-9,222,000)			(-9,687,000)	(-330,000)
Offsetting collections	(-11,750)	(-9,357,000)	(-12,250)	(-500)	
(Limitation on obligations)	(57,725,278)	(58,721,994)	(59,058,994)	(+1,333,716)	(+337,000)
Total budgetary resources	(119,162,295)	(106,650,174)	(119,116,994)	(-45,301)	(+12,466,820)

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