

Statutory language for homelessness prevention through Emergency Shelter Grant in economy recovery bill (December 4, 2008)

This is statutory language for the allocation of \$2 billion through HUD's Emergency Shelter Grant program. The eligible activities in this language are those contained in the McKinney reauthorization bill approved by the House and the Senate though not yet passed into law.

To prevent or alleviate homelessness among people who are renters in foreclosed property or otherwise homeless or in danger of homelessness, \$2,000,000,000, to remain available until expended, for grants under Subtitle IV.B. of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act [42 U.S.C. Sec. 11371 et seq.]; Provided, That assistance hereunder may be used for the following eligible activities instead of those in Section 414 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act [42 U.S.C. Sec. 11374]:

(1) Provision of short-term or medium-term rental assistance for homeless individuals or families or individuals or families at risk of homelessness. Such rental assistance may include tenant-based or project-based rental assistance.

(2) Housing relocation or stabilization services for homeless individuals or families or individuals or families at risk of homelessness, including housing search, mediation or outreach to property owners, legal services, credit repair, providing security or utility deposits, utility payments, rental assistance for a final month at a location, assistance with moving costs, or other activities that are effective at--

(A) stabilizing individuals and families in their current housing; or

(B) quickly moving such individuals and families to other permanent housing.

Provided further, That of the amount made available, the Secretary shall use not more than \$10,000,000 for training and technical assistance to recipients and subgrantees on effective programs to prevent and quickly alleviate homelessness; Provided further, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, a recipient of a grant hereunder may use not more than 7 percent for administrative purposes; Provided further, That Subsection 415(a) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act [42 U.S.C. Sec. 11375(a)] [matching amounts] shall not apply to the funds granted hereunder; Provided further, That the Secretary shall distribute funding provided under this heading within 60 days of the enactment of this Act.