



**CONSORTIUM FOR CITIZENS  
WITH DISABILITIES**

**Housing Task Force 2010 Report**

**Frank Melville Supportive Housing Investment Act (HR 1675 & S 1481)**

In huge victory for the disability community, the House gave final approval to important legislation reforming the HUD Section 811 program on December 21. This followed unanimous passage by the Senate on December 19. S 1481 makes a number of important changes designed to modernize the HUD Section 811 program – a critical affordable housing resource for non-elderly people with disabilities – and promote integrated supportive housing opportunities. The President is expected to sign the bill into law soon. Specifically, S 1481:

- Creates a new “PRAC only” option within 811 that will allow states use project-based assistance to integrate supportive housing into larger rental housing developments,
- Enacts reforms designed to streamline the development process for non-profit sponsors,
- Allows 811 capital financing and project-based operating subsidies to be used in multifamily developments, and
- Authorizes a shift of funding for renewal of 811 “mainstream” tenant-based rental assistance out of 811 into the Section 8 account.

CCD is extremely grateful for the leadership of the key sponsors of Frank Melville Supportive Housing Investment Act in Congress: Senators Bob Menendez (D-NJ) and Mike Johanns (R-NE) and Representatives Chris Murphy (D-CT) and Judy Biggert (R-IL) as well as key leaders such as Senate Banking Committee Chairman Chris Dodd (D-CT) and Ranking Member Richard Shelby (R-AL) and House Financial Services Committee Chairman Barney Frank (D-MA) and Ranking Member Spencer Bachus (R-AL).

More information on S 1481 can be found at:

[http://www.tacinc.org/Program\\_Policy/Sect811\\_legisltn.html](http://www.tacinc.org/Program_Policy/Sect811_legisltn.html)

**FY 2011 Appropriations**

As with all of the other FY 2011 appropriations bills, the Transportation-HUD bill was not passed in 2010 and HUD is now operating under a “continuing resolution” through March 4. HUD programs serving non-elderly people with disabilities would not be able to keep pace with increasing costs of renewing existing rental and operating subsidies in FY 2011 if frozen at their current FY 2010 levels. Further, if these programs are scaled back to FY 2008 levels, the reductions would be significant and would likely result in current lease compliant tenants losing their housing:

- HUD Section 811 – \$300 million allocation for FY 2010. A reduction down to the FY 2008 level would result in a cut of \$63 million. The final 811 funding level will

depend on whether or not Congress shifts the cost of renewals for expiring 811 tenant-based rental assistance out of 811, and into Section 8, for FY 2011 (this is projected to cost \$112 million).

- Section 8 Tenant-Based Rental Assistance – The current “continuing resolution” provides \$16.99 billion for the renewal of housing vouchers, an increase of \$655 million over the 2010 funding level. This amount should be just enough to renew the 2.1 million vouchers used by low-income families in 2010, according to CBPP estimates. In contrast, if overall funding levels were cut back to FY 2008 levels, the program would endure a 21% reduction (i.e., if the target for overall funding for nondefense discretionary programs were accepted, and all programs reduced by the same percentage). This would result in Section 8 voucher renewal funding being reduced by \$4 billion below the level in the current CR.
- Section 8 Project-Based Rental Assistance – The current CR includes \$9.3 billion for Section 8 PBRA in 2011, an increase of \$731 million over the 2010 funding level. Under the proposed 21-percent-reduction scenario, funding for Section 8 PBRA could be cut by \$2.3 billion below the House resolution level. This would eliminate rental assistance for more than 250,000 low-income families,  $\frac{3}{4}$  of which are elderly or people with disabilities.
  - McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance – Freezing the HUD McKinney-Vento program at its current FY 2010 level of \$1.852 billion (instead of the \$2.2 billion recommended in the FY 2011 Senate Transportation HUD Appropriations bill), will halt enormous progress being made in ending chronic homelessness, especially among single adults with disabilities. In fact, cutting McKinney-Vento back to FY 2008 levels would result in the program not having sufficient funds to renew all expiring rent subsidies in the McKinney-Vento permanent housing programs (Shelter Plus Care and SHP).

### **HUD “Worst Case Housing Needs” Report**

In 2010, the Housing Task Force continued to press the Office of Policy Development and Research (PD&R) to address the persistent undercount of non-elderly people with disabilities in HUD’s periodic reports measuring “worst case” housing needs (households spending more than 50% of monthly income for rent or living in substandard housing). CCD’s estimates are that as many as 2.1 to 2.4 million people with disabilities experience worst case needs, as opposed to HUD’s estimate of only 1 million. Through the work of our colleagues at TAC and consultant Dr. Kathy Nelson, PD&R finally agreed to post an alternative analysis. More information is at: [http://www.c-c-d.org/task\\_forces/housing/Bostic-letter-FINAL.pdf](http://www.c-c-d.org/task_forces/housing/Bostic-letter-FINAL.pdf)

### **Anticipated 2011 Priorities**

- 2012 HUD appropriations
- Implementation of the Frank Melville Supportive Housing Investment Act
- Fair housing enforcement and policies to affirmative further fair housing

### **Co-Chairs:**

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