



# FY2020 House Amendments

FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING, HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION,  
& COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS SUPPORTED BY  
CITIZENS' HOUSING & PLANNING ASSOCIATION

**Please co-sponsor the following budget amendments to help everyone have a safe, healthy, and affordable home!**

#	Line-Item	Program	Sponsor	Description
652	7004-9024	MRVP	Rep. Donato	Increases funding for MRVP to \$130 million
859	7004-9024	MRVP	Rep. McGonagle	Program improvements for MRVP
1159	7004-9030	AHVP	Rep. Decker	Increases funding for AHVP to \$8 million
40	7004-3036	Housing Consumer Education Centers (HCECs)	Rep. Honan	Increases funding for HCECs to \$4 million
1127	7004-9316	RAFT	Rep. Decker	Increases RAFT funding to \$27 million to create a rent arrearage pilot program to prevent evictions
699	7004-0108	HomeBASE	Rep. Ferrante	HomeBASE program improvements to better serve families at risk of homelessness
1010	7004-0108	HomeBASE	Rep. Vargas	Allows families to access emergency shelter if they lose HomeBASE
883	4000-0007	Unaccompanied Homeless Youth	Rep. O'Day	Increases funding for homeless youth housing & services to \$5 million
1215	NEW	Housing Choice	Rep. McGonagle	Creates \$5.3 million line-item to support Housing Choice communities
1129	Outside Section	Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)	Rep. Decker	Increases state EITC to 50% of the federal EITC

*For more information, contact Eric Shupin, CHAPA's Director of Public Policy, [eshupin@chapa.org](mailto:eshupin@chapa.org) or 617-682-9712*



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FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING, HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION, & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

## **#652 - Massachusetts Rental Voucher Program (MRVP) (7004-9024)**

Sponsored by Rep. Paul Donato

Rep. Donato's amendment increases funding for MRVP to \$130 million. This will create hundreds of new rental vouchers, preserve affordable housing, and help create new affordable homes.

## **#859 - MRVP Improvements (7004-9024)**

Sponsored by Rep. Joseph McGonagle

Rep. McGonagle's amendment makes important program improvements to MRVP:

- Makes MRVP more usable by increasing voucher rent caps to current fair market rent standards
- Helps distribute vouchers faster by directing DHCD to release a distribution plan
- Targets new vouchers to the lowest-income households
- Raises the admin fee to help more effectively administer the program
- Allows any unspent MRVP funds to automatically be available for the program the next year

## **#1159 - Alternative Housing Voucher Program (AHVP) (7004-9030)**

Sponsored by Rep. Marjorie Decker

Rep. Decker's amendment increases funding for AHVP to \$8 million to provide additional rental vouchers for low-income households with persons with disabilities.

## **#40 - Housing Consumer Education Centers (HCECs) (7004-3036)**

Sponsored by Rep. Kevin Honan

Rep. Honan's amendment increases funding for HCECs to \$4 million to allow regional housing agencies to serve more people looking for affordable housing resources, homebuyer and foreclosure counseling, or other housing assistance.

## **#1127 - Residential Assistance for Families in Transition (RAFT) (7004-9316)**

Sponsored by Rep. Marjorie Decker

Rep. Decker's amendment increases RAFT funding to \$27 million to support a \$7 million pilot program to prevent evictions and foreclosures by offering financial assistance to low-income households who are behind on rent or mortgage payments.

### **#699 - HomeBASE Improvements (7004-0108)**

Sponsored by Rep. Ann-Margaret Ferrante

Rep. Ferrante's amendment makes important program improvements to better support families facing homelessness:

- Allows earlier access to HomeBASE for families at imminent risk of homelessness
- De-links RAFT and HomeBASE benefits so that households can access both these homelessness prevention resources
- Allows families to renew their HomeBASE assistance if otherwise facing a return to homelessness

### **#1010 - Emergency Assistance & HomeBASE (7004-0101)**

Sponsored by Rep. Andy Vargas

Rep. Vargas's amendment ensures that families can access Emergency Assistance shelter and resources if they can no longer afford rent and are evicted because of the loss of HomeBASE.

### **#883 - Unaccompanied Homeless Youths (4000-0007)**

Sponsored by Rep. Jim O'Day

Rep. O'Day's amendment increases funding to \$5 million for housing and services for unaccompanied homeless youth.

### **#1215 - Housing Choice (NEW)**

Sponsored by Rep. Joseph McGonagle

Rep. McGonagle's amendment creates a new \$5.3 million line-item to support Housing Choice communities that have demonstrated a commitment to producing new housing and adopting best practices to promote smart growth and sustainable housing development.

### **#1129 - Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) (Outside Section)**

Sponsored by Rep. Marjorie Decker

Rep. Decker's amendment increases the state EITC to 50% of the federal EITC value. The state EITC is an effective tax credit for low-income households that increases economic mobility, reduces inequality, rewards work, and improves health.

*For more information, contact Eric Shupin, CHAPA's Director of Public Policy, [eshupin@chapa.org](mailto:eshupin@chapa.org) or 617-742-0820 ext. 103.*

