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GENERAL NEWS

2022 Omnibus Appropriations Bill Enacted

Congress has enacted a [legislative package](#) that includes a \$1.5 trillion omnibus appropriations bill. For fiscal year (FY) 2022, the spending bill provides HUD programs with \$53.7 billion, an increase of \$4 billion from FY 2021. The bill had been approved by the House of Representatives on March 9 and by the Senate the following day. The President signed it on March 11. The bill provides:

- \$3.2 billion for the Public Housing Capital Fund and \$5.06 billion for the Public Housing Operating Fund
- \$24 billion for Section 8 tenant-based HAP renewal funding and \$2.41 billion for administrative fees
- \$200 million in new incremental vouchers to expand rental assistance vouchers to an additional 25,000 households, including individuals and families experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness
- \$50 million for Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing ([VASH](#))
- \$459 million for Section 811 [mainstream vouchers](#)
- \$30 million for the Family Unification Program ([FUP](#)) vouchers
- \$25 million for housing mobility services ([Community Choice Demonstration](#))
- \$13.94 billion to renew Project-Based Rental Assistance ([PBRA](#)) contracts
- \$109 million for Family Self-Sufficiency ([FSS](#))
- \$35 million for Resident Opportunities and Self-Sufficiency ([ROSS](#))
- \$15 million for [Jobs Plus](#)
- \$350 million for [Choice Neighborhoods](#)
- \$415 million to the Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes ([OLHCHH](#))
- \$85 million for HUD’s Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity ([FHEO](#))

The National Low-Income Housing Coalition ([NLIHC](#)) has posted a [full analysis](#) of the FY 2022 appropriations bill and an updated [chart](#) comparing FY 2021 funding levels to proposed and final levels for FY 2022.

Congress Enacts Reauthorization of VAWA

The FY 2022 spending bill also includes the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), which creates and supports comprehensive responses and services for survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, and human trafficking. Key provisions are as follows:

- The VAWA Reauthorization Act of 2022 will expand prevention efforts and protections for survivors, including those from underserved communities.
- The bill increases housing protections for survivors of violence by improving the process to review compliance with VAWA requirements in federally assisted housing. Specifically, the review process must examine compliance with:
 - Requirements prohibiting the denial of assistance, tenancy, or occupancy right on the basis of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking
 - Confidentiality provisions
 - Certain notification requirements
 - Emergency transfer requirements
 - Prohibition on retaliation
- The bill reaffirms the survivors right to seek assistance from law enforcement or other emergency services without facing retaliation from any PHA or owner, including through fines and fees, eviction, and refusal to renew tenancy.
- The bill amends the federal definition of *homelessness* to include individuals or families experiencing “trauma or a lack of safety” related to domestic violence.
- The bill reauthorizes and improves the VAWA transitional housing assistance grants until 2027 and authorizes a study on the housing needs of survivors of human trafficking.
- The bill creates a new VAWA Housing Director position at HUD and will provide additional funding for VAWA training and technical assistance grants.

NLIHC has also [posted](#) an analysis of the VAWA Reauthorization.



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