

A RESOLUTION

**Proposed Resolution
20-77**

To declare the existence of an emergency, due to Congressional review, with respect to the need to amend the Homeless Services Reform Act of 2005 to authorize the Mayor and the District of Columbia Housing Authority to fill vacant Rent Supplement Program tenant-based voucher slots with homeless families referred by the Department of Human Services and determined to have first priority to shelter, through the end of the 2012-2013 hypothermia season.

**See Emergency Act
D.C. Act 20-12
20 DCSTAT 466**

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “Local Rent Supplement Program Voucher Congressional Review Emergency Declaration Resolution of 2013”.

**Local Rent
Supplement
Program Voucher
Congressional
Review Emergency
Declaration
Resolution of 2013**

Sec. 2. (a) Recently a number of vacant local rental assistance vouchers under the Rent Supplement Program were allowed to lapse by the District of Columbia Housing Authority (“DCHA”).

(b) Over the past 2 years, the Council has stricken language in budget support acts prohibiting DCHA from filling vacant vouchers.

(c) Following a public oversight roundtable on the matter, a compromise was reached to use the vacant vouchers for the housing needs of homeless families referred by the Department of Human Services.

(d) The Mayor and the District of Columbia Housing Authority need the legal authority to immediately begin to fill vacant Rent Supplement Program tenant-based voucher slots with homeless families referred by the Department of Human Services and determined to have first priority to shelter.

(e) These referrals shall be made in accordance with the special eligibility criteria set forth in sections 2556, 2557, and 2558 of Title 29 of the District of Columbia Municipal Regulations (29 DCMR § 2556 - 2558).

(f) The Council enacted the Local Rent Supplement Program Voucher Emergency Amendment Act of 2012, effective November 16, 2012 (D.C. Act 19-545; 59 DCR 13590), which allows vouchers to be targeted to families in most urgent need of housing during the 2012-2013 hypothermia season. This emergency legislation expires on February 14, 2013, and associated temporary legislation has not completed the 30-day Congressional review period required by section 602(c)(1) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02(c)(1)) and is not projected to become law until after February 14, 2013.

(g) It is important that the provisions of the emergency legislation remain in effect until the temporary legislation takes effect.

Sec. 3. The Council of the District of Columbia determines that the circumstances enumerated in section 2 constitute emergency circumstances making it necessary that the Local

COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
D.C. Resolution 20-26, effective February 5, 2013

20 DCSTAT 726

Rent Supplement Program Voucher Congressional Review Emergency Amendment Act of 2013
be adopted after a single reading.

Sec. 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.