

110<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 3018

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 26 (legislative day, SEPTEMBER 17), 2008

Received

OCTOBER 2 (legislative day, SEPTEMBER 17), 2008

Read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban  
Affairs

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## AN ACT

To provide for payment of an administrative fee to public housing agencies to cover the costs of administering family self-sufficiency programs in connection with the housing choice voucher program of the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

1        *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2        *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Family Self-Sufficiency  
3 Act of 2007”.

4 **SEC. 2. ADMINISTRATIVE FEES FOR FAMILY SELF-SUFFI-  
5 CIENCY PROGRAM COSTS.**

6 Subsection (h) of section 23 of the United States  
7 Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437u(h)) is amended  
8 by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the following new  
9 paragraph:

10 “(1) SECTION 8 FEES.—

11 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall  
12 establish a fee under section 8(q) for the costs  
13 incurred in administering the self-sufficiency  
14 program under this section to assist families re-  
15 ceiving voucher assistance through section 8(o).

16 “(B) ELIGIBILITY FOR FEE.—The fee shall  
17 provide funding for family self-sufficiency coor-  
18 dinators as follows:

19 “(i) BASE FEE.—A public housing  
20 agency serving 25 or more participants in  
21 the family self-sufficiency program under  
22 this section shall receive a fee equal to the  
23 costs of employing one full-time family  
24 self-sufficiency coordinator. An agency  
25 serving fewer than 25 such participants  
26 shall receive a prorated fee.

1           “(ii) ADDITIONAL FEE.—An agency  
2           that meets minimum performance stand-  
3           ards shall receive an additional fee suffi-  
4           cient to cover the costs of employing a sec-  
5           ond family self-sufficiency coordinator if  
6           the agency has 75 or more participating  
7           families, and a third such coordinator if it  
8           has 125 or more participating families.

9           “(iii) PREVIOUSLY FUNDED AGEN-  
10          CIES.—An agency that received funding  
11          from the Department of Housing and  
12          Urban Development for more than three  
13          such coordinators in any of fiscal years  
14          1998 through 2007 shall receive funding  
15          for the highest number of coordinators  
16          funded in a single fiscal year during that  
17          period, provided they meet applicable size  
18          and performance standards.

19          “(iv) INITIAL YEAR.—For the first  
20          year in which a public housing agency ex-  
21          ercises its right to develop an family self-  
22          sufficiency program for its residents, it  
23          shall be entitled to funding to cover the  
24          costs of up to one family self-sufficiency

1 coordinator, based on the size specified in  
2 its action plan for such program.

3 “(v) STATE AND REGIONAL AGEN-  
4 CIES.—For purposes of calculating the  
5 family self-sufficiency portion of the ad-  
6 ministrative fee under this subparagraph,  
7 each administratively distinct part of a  
8 State or regional public housing agency  
9 shall be treated as a separate agency.

10 “(vi) DETERMINATION OF NUMBER  
11 OF COORDINATORS.—In determining  
12 whether a public housing agency meets a  
13 specific threshold for funding pursuant to  
14 this paragraph, the number of participants  
15 being served by the agency in its family  
16 self-sufficiency program shall be considered  
17 to be the average number of families en-  
18 rolled in such agency’s program during the  
19 course of the most recent fiscal year for  
20 which the Department of Housing and  
21 Urban Development has data.

22 “(C) PRORATION.—If insufficient funds  
23 are available in any fiscal year to fund all of the  
24 coordinators authorized under this section, the  
25 first priority shall be given to funding one coor-

1           dinator at each agency with an existing family  
2           self-sufficiency program. The remaining funds  
3           shall be prorated based on the number of re-  
4           maining coordinators to which each agency is  
5           entitled under this subparagraph.

6           “(D) RECAPTURE.—Any fees allocated  
7           under this subparagraph by the Secretary in a  
8           fiscal year that have not been spent by the end  
9           of the subsequent fiscal year shall be recaptured  
10          by the Secretary and shall be available for pro-  
11          viding additional fees pursuant to subparagraph  
12          (B)(ii).

13          “(E) PERFORMANCE STANDARDS.—Within  
14          six months after the date of the enactment of  
15          this paragraph, the Secretary shall publish a  
16          proposed rule specifying the performance stand-  
17          ards applicable to funding under clauses (ii)  
18          and (iii) of subparagraph (B). Such standards  
19          shall include requirements applicable to the  
20          leveraging of in-kind services and other re-  
21          sources to support the goals of the family self-  
22          sufficiency program.

23          “(F) DATA COLLECTION.—Public housing  
24          agencies receiving funding under this paragraph  
25          shall collect and report to the Secretary, in such

1 manner as the Secretary shall require, informa-  
2 tion on the performance of their family self-suf-  
3 ficiency programs.

4 “(G) EVALUATION.—The Secretary shall  
5 conduct a formal and scientific evaluation of  
6 the effectiveness of well-run family self-suffi-  
7 ciency programs, using random assignment of  
8 participants to the extent practicable. Not later  
9 than the expiration of the 4-year period begin-  
10 ning upon the enactment of this paragraph, the  
11 Secretary shall submit an interim evaluation re-  
12 port to the Congress. Not later than the expira-  
13 tion of the 8-year period beginning upon such  
14 enactment, the Secretary shall submit a final  
15 evaluation report to the Congress. There is au-  
16 thorized to be appropriated \$10,000,000 to  
17 carry out the evaluation under this subpara-  
18 graph.

19 “(H) INCENTIVES FOR INNOVATION AND  
20 HIGH PERFORMANCE.—The Secretary may re-  
21 serve up to 10 percent of the amounts made  
22 available for administrative fees under this  
23 paragraph to provide support to or reward fam-  
24 ily self-sufficiency programs that are particu-

1           larly innovative or highly successful in achieving  
2           the goals of the program.”.

Passed the House of Representatives September 25,  
2008.

Attest:                   LORRAINE C. MILLER,  
*Clerk.*