



**→ Legislative Update**

For the latest news from Olympia go to [www.wliha.org/](http://www.wliha.org/)

Click to jump to that section: (These are in no particular order.)

**Washington State Housing Trust Fund** – To be determined in Capital Budget

**HEN/ABD/SSI Facilitation Services** – On track for action

**Medicaid Permanent Supportive Housing Services Benefit** – Waiting for Federal action

**Fair Tenant Screening Act** – HB 2811 & SB 6413: Delete evictions when tenant not responsible – agreed  
– HB 1257 & SB 5123; HB 1460 & SB 5376: Not proceeding

**Source of Income Discrimination Protections** – HB 1565 House & SB 5378 Senate: Lead committees passed

**Bringing WA Home** – SB 6647 – \$183M for HTF & Homeless Services – on track

**Operating Budget** – include CHG \$7.5M gap? – Give DOC authority to use DRF revenue coming in for CHG

**New Revenue for Washington State**

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**→ HUD’s FY 2017 Proposed Budget Briefing with Stakeholders – Feb 10. 10 am PST**

President Barack Obama will be announcing the Administration’s FY 2017 proposed budget on February 9, 2016. On behalf of Secretary Julián Castro, I invite you to join the Secretary the *day after* the release for a budget briefing for external stakeholders. Hopefully, this will give everyone more time to review the proposed budget. We want to keep you engaged and informed about how the proposed HUD budget will impact your organization and the communities that you serve.

Event: FY 2017 Proposed Budget Webcast with Stakeholders

Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2016      Time: 10:00 – 11:00am PST      Where: Online

How to Join the FY 2017 Budget Webcast

*This event will be webcast and can be seen at the following links that will go live about 15 minutes before the broadcast.*

Join the [FY 2017 Proposed Budget Webcast](#).

Join the [FY 2017 Proposed Budget Webcast with captions](#).

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**→ Congress Passes Housing Reform Bill with Rare Bi-Partisan Support**

**Background:** NLIHC’s February 1 Memo to Members article on H.R. 3700: <http://nlihc.org/article/housing-assistance-reform-bill-goes-house-floor-week-february-1>

On February 2, the House of Representatives passed H.R. 3700, the Housing Opportunities Through Modernization Act, by a vote of 427 Yeas to 0 Nays. This overwhelming show of support is the result of years of strong advocacy pushing these common sense reforms. Thank you to all advocates who contacted your Representative in the past few days about this important bill!

Prior to passage, H.R. 3700 was improved through the passage of several key amendments.

Changes to the bill include the following, all of which passed by voice vote:

- **Amendment from Representative Maxine Waters (D-CA)** to retain current law related to the standard \$480 deduction from income for dependents, as well as for all child care costs, that public & assisted housing residents may take before their rents are calculated.
- **Amendment from Representatives David Price (D-NC) and Robert Aderholt (R-AL)** to update the formula for HUD's Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) program to count people living with HIV/AIDS as well as require HUD to develop regulations that incorporate a poverty factor and a housing cost factor in the updated formula. Currently, HOPWA funds are distributed based on cumulative AIDS cases, representing individuals both living with and dying from AIDS. AIDS housing advocates have been working for years to update the formula.
- **Amendment from Representative Peter Welch (D-VT)** to allow housing choice vouchers to cover costs beyond the rental of the land underneath a manufactured home, including helping the manufactured homeowner pay for the cost of their home, its insurance, utilities, and property taxes.
- **Amendment from Representative Grace Meng (D-NY)** to require HUD to publish model guidelines for minimum heating requirements for units operated by public housing agencies.
- **Amendment from Representative Terri Sewell (D-AL)** to require HUD to conduct a study of the impacts of H.R. 3700's income deduction changes on rents paid by the elderly, people with disabilities, and families.
- **Amendment from Representative Sheila Jackson Lee (D-TX)** to direct the Secretaries of HUD & Department of Labor to produce an annual report on strategies to strengthen family economic empowerment.

**Other amendments:** An amendment from Representative Keith Ellison (D-MN) to authorize HUD housing providers to report on-time rental payment to credit reporting agencies failed by voice vote during floor debate. The only amendment to receive a roll call vote was **Representative Steven Palazzo's (R-MS)** effort to permanently exempt all public housing agencies in Mississippi, Iowa, Alaska, as well as the Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles, from the requirement to have a resident on their boards of commissioners. This passed by a margin of 246 Yeas to 178 Nays.

**Thank Your Representative!** NLIHC urges all advocates to call their Representative's office to thank them for their vote! **Members of Congress need to know that we notice when they do the right thing & stand up for low income renters.** For information to contact your Representative, contact the Congressional Switchboard at 877-210-5351.

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**Continue to Pages 3-5 below**

## ➔ Housing Policy: A Bold New Vision

I'm pleased to share that today **Enterprise** is releasing ***An Investment in Opportunity***, a long-term platform that lays out the federal, state and local policy changes necessary to address America's growing rental housing crisis and create communities of opportunity across the U.S. It includes input from thought leaders and partners across the country, including many of you. The platform offers a bold new vision for housing policy, with 23 discrete policy recommendations built around four strategies for reform:



1. Ensure broad access to high-opportunity neighborhoods
2. Promote comprehensive public and private investments in low-income neighborhoods
3. Recalibrate our priorities in housing policy and target scarce subsidy dollars where they're needed most
4. Improve the overall financial stability of low-income households

We've created multiple ways to explore the policy recommendations and learn more about our platform:

- Visit our [interactive website](#)
- Read the [full policy platform online](#)
- [Download the platform as a PDF](#)
- Get a high-level summary of the platform on the [Enterprise blog](#)

Join our [Live Online Event webinar](#) on the platform on Thursday, Feb. 11, 2-3 EST This platform arrives at a crucial moment. Today more than one in four families who rent their homes – an unprecedented 11.4 million renter households in total – are “housing insecure,” meaning they pay more than half of their monthly income on housing. Absent meaningful policy changes, **this problem will only get worse in the years to come**. In releasing this platform, we hope to start a national conversation about the role of government – at all levels – in ending the rental housing crisis once and for all. We look forward to that debate, and we hope you'll lend your voice.

Diane Yentel - VP, Public Policy & Government Affairs - Enterprise Community Partners, Inc.

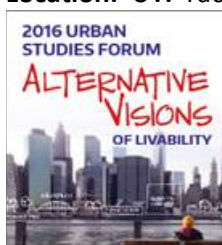
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## ➔ 2016 Urban Studies Forum

The [2016 Urban Studies Forum](#) is only a few weeks away! Mark your calendar and register today. Also please pass this information along to others in your network. Click the link above or the icon below for more detailed information.

**Date:** February 25, 2016      **Time:** 8:30am to 1:30pm

**Location:** UW Tacoma, William W. Philip Hall, 1918 Pacific Avenue, Tacoma Washington 98402



## ➔ Investing in What Works for America's Communities

February 3, 2016

Housing Mobility: A Chance for Families to Succeed

Recent [studies](#) on "neighborhood effects" and events in Baltimore and beyond have brought national attention to the plight of families living in poor, segregated neighborhoods.

In a new blog post, Rachel Brash of the [Baltimore Regional Housing Partnership \(BRHP\)](#) discusses her organization's housing mobility program that helps Baltimore families living in concentrated poverty move to better neighborhoods. Brash also explores the emerging research and federal regulations that have helped propel housing mobility initiatives into the national limelight.

An excerpt of Brash's piece: Although housing mobility is widely seen today as an effective way to use housing policy to break cycles of intergenerational poverty and improve quality of life for low-income families, this has not always been the case. Acceptance of this approach has been hard-won through years of experimentation, research, and increasing public awareness of the adverse effects of concentrated disadvantage and housing segregation. [Read More](#)

What Works News Round-Up

CityLab (2/2/16) [Are Poor Neighborhoods Worse for Boys Than Girls?](#)

Urban Wire (2/1/16) [No Matter the Intervention, Pay For Success Programs Are Ambitious](#)

The New York Times (2/1/16) [Black America and the Class Divide](#)

[Read More](#)

Investing in What Works for America's Communities is a joint project of the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco and the Low Income Investment Fund. Funding for this project was generously provided to the Low Income Investment Fund by the Citi Foundation.

For more information, visit [whatworksforamerica.org](http://whatworksforamerica.org).

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## ➔ Tacoma planning

The City is currently developing a Subarea Plan and EIS for the Tacoma Mall Neighborhood. The effort will result in a plan and implementation strategies to achieve local and regional goals for the neighborhood, as well as up-front environmental approval for future development that is consistent with the plan. The study area is 601-acres, including the current 485-acre Center and a proposed 116-acre expansion area.

Between July and November 2015, the City conducted a major public and stakeholder engagement effort, including multiple public meetings and events culminating in a multi-day Design Workshop. Since that time, the project team has worked to assemble and analyze data, synthesize public input, and identify strategies to meet community objectives for the neighborhood. Several new documents are available on the project webpage, including summaries of public comments to date, of the EIS Scoping process, and of the September Design Workshop. The project is now entering a new phase. From February to June 2016, the City will build on this work to develop the Draft Plan and Draft EIS. This phase will include a second focused effort to engage the community.

Public meetings will be scheduled for March through May 2016.

For more information, visit [www.tacomamallneighborhood.com](http://www.tacomamallneighborhood.com)

## ➔ Nonprofit Learning

Washington Nonprofits & the Office of the Secretary of State are partnering to bring anytime, anywhere nonprofit learning to organizations across Washington. Join us for free and low-cost training opportunities online and in your community.

Your mission is important. To achieve it, you need nonprofit knowledge, tools, and connections. You need to have a strong board, understand basic nonprofit finance, and be compliant with state and federal rules that govern organizations like yours. You also need to know how to raise money, engage staff, and support volunteers. But you also need a place to learn. *And that's why we created the Washington Nonprofit Institute.*

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