

Summary of Key Provisions in HEALS Act for the Health Care for the Homeless Community

July 2020

On July 28, the United States Senate released the text of their proposed fourth COVID19 stimulus, the *Health, Economic Assistance, Liability Protection, and Schools (HEALS) Act*. The text was released through a series of different bills ([housing and health funding text](#)). **Note: this proposal serves as a starting point for negotiations between the House and Senate. Changes to this are expected if/when both parties of Congress come to a collective agreement on what to bring to the floor for a vote.**

HOUSING/HUD

- \$2.2 billion for **Section 8 tenant-based rental assistance**
- \$1 billion for **Public Housing Operating Fund**

HEALTH CENTERS

- \$7.6 billion for **Health Centers** to “expand the capacity to provide testing, triage, and care for COVID19 and other health care services.”

OTHER HEALTH PROGRAMS

- \$25 billion for the **Public Health and Social Services Emergency fund** (adding to the \$175 provided in previous stimulus bills). [See more](#) about this fund from the House Ways and Means Committee.
- \$1.5 billion for the **Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant**
- \$2 billion for the **Community Mental Health Services Block Grant**
- \$1.5 billion for the **Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)**
- \$3.4 billion for **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention** (including \$1.5 billion to support state and local public health needs)
- \$1.6 billion for **testing, contact tracing, and surveillance in states**

ECONOMIC IMPACT PAYMENTS

- Provides for a second payment of \$1,200 per individual (the first was provided in a previous stimulus bill) and makes all dependents eligible (rather than only dependent children under 17 as designated previously) for the \$500 additional amount per dependent.

Notably not in this bill: the Senate's \$1 trillion HEALS Act failed to include many top priorities for housing and homelessness that were included in the House-passed \$3 trillion HEROES Act ([our summary](#)), such as an expansion of the eviction moratorium, assistance to state and local governments, expansions of food stamps (SNAP), emergency rental assistance, and billions for other HUD programs. See a [detailed side-by-side comparison](#) of the HEROES Act and HEALS Act from the Progressive Caucus Action Fund and [statement](#) from our housing partners.