



# FY2022 Senate Amendments

FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING, RENTAL ASSISTANCE & HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION SUPPORTED BY CITIZENS' HOUSING & PLANNING ASSOCIATION

**Please co-sponsor the following budget amendments to help everyone have a safe, healthy, and affordable home!**

#	Program	Sponsor	Description
444	Mass. Rental Voucher Program (MRVP)	<b>Sen. Keenan</b>	Increases funding to \$160 million
756	RAFT Improvements	<b>Sen. Crighton</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increases funding to \$26.7 million</li> <li>Keeps the \$10,000 maximum RAFT benefit in place after the COVID-19 emergency</li> <li>Allows families w/ children at risk of homelessness to access both RAFT &amp; HomeBASE even after the COVID-19 emergency</li> </ul>
835	Improvements to HomeBASE	<b>Sen. Jehlen</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increases funding to \$45 million</li> <li>Allows families &amp; children who would otherwise face a return to homelessness renew HomeBASE when the benefits end</li> <li>Allows families w/ children at risk of homelessness to access both RAFT &amp; HomeBASE even after the COVID-19 emergency</li> <li>Improve tracking &amp; reporting requirements</li> </ul>
837	Tenancy Preservation Program	<b>Sen. Hinds</b>	Increases funding to \$1.8 million
121	Reducing CPA Recording Fees for Affordable Housing	<b>Sen. DiDomenico</b>	Reduces Community Preservation Act (CPA) recording fees for affordable housing

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## **#444 - Mass. Rental Voucher Program (MRVP) (7004-9024)**

Sponsored by Sen. John Keenan

Sen. Keenan's amendment increases the FY2022 allocations to \$160 million to help meet the affordable housing need and increase the number of households who can access the program. This funding level could support an estimated 1,800 new rental vouchers.

## **#756 – RAFT Improvements (7004-9316)**

Sponsored by Sen. Brendan Crighton

Sen. Crighton's amendment increases funding for RAFT to \$26.7 million to ensure that adequate funding is available to provide emergency housing assistance for those that do not qualify for federal emergency rental assistance – such as for housing emergencies not related to COVID-19 or for mortgage payment assistance. The amendment also:

- Keeps the \$10,000 maximum RAFT benefit in place after the end of the COVID-19 emergency declaration to allow those impacted by the virus time to recover, even after the end of the emergency declaration.
- Allows families with children at risk of homelessness to access the maximum benefits for both RAFT and HomeBASE, even after COVID-19 emergency declaration ends, as they will continue to face housing instability even after the emergency is lifted.

## **#835 - Improvements to HomeBASE (7004-0108)**

Sponsored by Sen. Patricia Jehlen

Sen. Jehlen's amendment increases funding for HomeBASE to \$45 million. It also allows families with children to renew their HomeBASE assistance if otherwise facing a return to homelessness, provided that the family is eligible and remains in good standing. Finally, the amendment improves data collection with respect to race and ethnicity data on HomeBASE program participants.

## **#837 – Tenancy Preservation Program (7004-3045)**

Sponsored by Sen. Adam Hinds

Sen. Hind's amendment increases funding for the Tenancy Preservation Program to \$1.8 million. This will allow the program to help prevent homelessness for persons with disabilities who face an eviction related to their disability.

## **#121 - Reducing CPA Recording Fees for Affordable Housing**

Sponsored by Sen. Sal DiDomenico

Sen. DiDomenico's amendment reduces Community Preservation Act (CPA) recording fees for affordable housing. This will help reduce the financial burden on low- and moderate- income affordable home buyers while having a small impact on overall fee collection for the state's Community Preservation Trust.