



HOUSE COMMITTEE APPROVES MCKINNEY-VENTO REAUTHORIZATION. On July 31 the House Financial Services Committee passed H.R. 840, the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act, which would renew homelessness programs with changes, including a new rural program. A similar bill, S. 1518, passed the Senate Banking

Committee in November 2007. S. 1518 is at <http://thomas.loc.gov> and H.R. 840 is available at http://www.house.gov/apps/list/speech/financialsvcs_dem/mu073008.shtml.

CONTINUUM OF CARE APPLICATIONS DUE SEPT. 26. HUD's deadline notice also makes some corrections in the NOFA published July 10. See *Federal Register*, 8/13/08, pp. 47205-06 or <http://www.hudhre.info/esnaps/>. Contact a HUD Field Office or 1-877-6esnaps (1-877-637-6277).

APPLICANT POOL CLARIFIED FOR SECTION 538 DEMO. The final deadline remains September 29 to request a guarantee covering both construction and permanent financing. See *Federal Register*, 7/21/08, p. 42315, or <http://www.grants.gov>. Contact an RD state office.

CDFI FUND ISSUES FY 2009 NOFA. Community Development Financial Institutions can apply by October 29 for financial or technical assistance awards. A webcast for applicants will be held August 18, and in-person work-shops begin the same day. See <http://www.cdfifund.gov>; the notice will be published in the *Federal Register* on August 15. Contact CDFI Fund staff at cdfihelp@cdfi.treas.gov or 202-622-6355.

GREEN BUILDING FUNDS OFFERED. Apply online by September 18 for Green Communities Grants from Enterprise Community Partners. Loans and tax credit equity are also available. Visit www.greencommunitiesonline.org/tools/funding/grants/. ♦ The Kresge Foundation's Green Building Initiative makes planning grants for green building. Visit www.kresge.org/content/displaycontent.aspx?CID=59.

HUD PROPOSES STREAMLINING PUBLIC HOUSING. Comments are due October 6 on a regulation that would revise grievance procedures, PHA plans, and public housing development. See *Federal Register*, 8/5/08, pp. 45368-73 or <http://www.regulations.gov>. Contact Bessy M. Kong, HUD, 202-708-0713 ext. 2548.

BANK PUBLIC WELFARE INVESTMENTS EXPANDED. In an interim final rule implementing part of the recently enacted Housing and Economic Recovery Act, the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency permits national banks to make a broader range of investments to promote the public welfare. Comments are due September 10. See *Federal Register*, 8/11/08, pp. 46532-39 or <http://www.regulations.gov>. Contact Steven VanMeter, OCC, 202-874-5750.

NEW MARKETS TAX CREDIT RECAPTURE CHANGES PROPOSED. Comments are due November 10. A public hearing is set for December 12. See *Federal Register*, 8/11/08, pp. 46572-75 or <http://www.regulations.gov>. Contact Julie Hanlon-Bolton, IRS, 202-622-7028.

IRS ADDS NEW OPTIONS FOR LOW INCOME HOUSING TAX CREDIT TENANT UTILITY COST ESTIMATES. See *Federal Register*, 7/29/08, pp. 43863-68, <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/fr/>. Contact David Selig, IRS, 202-622-3040.

CHANGE SUGGESTED FOR HMDA DEFINITION OF HIGHER-PRICED LOANS. Bank reporting of mortgage loans would be affected. Comments are due August 29. See *Federal Register*, 7/30/08, pp. 44189-97 or <http://www.regulations.gov>. Contact John C. Wood, Federal Reserve, 202-452-3667.

HOUSING CRASH ELIMINATING GAINS IN WEALTH BUILDING, STUDY FINDS. An analysis by the Center for Economic and Policy Research estimates the median amounts of wealth homeowners may lose, based on their age. *The Impact of the Housing Crash on Family Wealth* is at <http://www.cepr.net>.

UPDATED DATA ON FARMWORKERS PUBLISHED. *Profile of Hired Farmworkers: A 2008 Update* from USDA's Economic Research Service covers employment, migration, demographics, housing, and more, at <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/ERR60/> or for a charge from USDA, 1-800-999-6779 (request ERR-60).

RENTS ABOVE HOUSING ASSISTANCE PAYMENT LEVELS ARE ILLEGAL. A HUD Inspector General "fraud alert" describes improper actions by landlords collecting more rent from tenants than authorized by HAPs. See *Federal Register*, 7/10/08, pp. 39712-13, or <http://www.hudclips.org>. Contact Bryan P. Saddler, HUD, 202-708-1613.

NOMINATIONS DUE SEPTEMBER 15 FOR RURAL HOUSING AWARDS! At the National Rural Housing Conference 2008: Working for Change, Building Our Future, December 3-5, 2008 in Washington, D.C., HAC will present awards for national and local rural housing work and, for the first time this year, for work by a publicly elected official. Visit <http://www.ruralhome.org/Conf2008/awards.php> or contact Lilla Sutton, HAC, 202-842-8600, lilla@ruralhome.org. Watch for conference registration details in the *HAC News* and at www.ruralhome.org/Conf2008/index.php.