

A BILL

25-868

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To amend the ~~Homeless Services Reform Act~~ Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Support Act of 2024, the Fiscal Year 2024 Revised Local Budget Act of 2024, and the Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Support Emergency Act of 2024 to establish grounds for an extension to the Family Re-Housing Stabilization Program (FRSP), whereby the Department or its designee will thoroughly consider the totality of the participant's circumstances, including their progress and eligibility for affordable housing, should funding be available in the program to do so.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this Act may be cited as the “Family Re-Housing Stabilization Program Protection Temporary Amendment Act of 2024”.

Sec. 2. Sec. 5062(a) of the Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Support Act of 2024, passed on 2nd reading on June 25, 2024 (Enrolled version of B25-0784), is amended to read as follows:

“(a) Section 7(b)(4)(B) of the Homeless Services Reform Act, effective October 22, 2005 (D.C. Law 16-35; D.C. Official Code § 4-753.01(b)(4)(B)), is amended as follows:

(1) The existing text is designated as sub-subparagraph (i).

(2) New sub-subparagraphs (ii), (iii), and (iv) are added to read as follows:

“(ii) Notwithstanding other law, provided that funding be available within the Family Re-Housing Stabilization Program (“FRSP”) to implement this sub-subparagraph and sub-subparagraphs (iii) and (iv) of this subparagraph, the Department of

30 Human Services, or the Department's designee, shall consider requests for FRSP assistance  
31 extending past 12 months if:

32 “(I) The participant has requested an extension in writing;

33 “(II) The participant has made a good faith effort towards  
34 the achievement of goals set forth in an individualized plan with the aim of a targeted

35 progression towards exit from the supports of FRSP, as observed by the service provider at

36 consistent intervals, but cannot yet sustain housing stability independently of the program; and

37 “(III) The participant has not yet been approved for

38 permanently affordable housing.

39 “(iii) When making a determination of whether to grant a

40 participant in FRSP an extension beyond 12 months, the Department or Department's designee

41 shall:

42 “(I) Consider the totality of the circumstances; and

43 “(II) Grant extensions of time in increments not greater

44 than 6 months, with regular formal reviews every 3 months to ensure that participants are given

45 the support necessary to exit the program with stable housing.”

46 “(iv) If a requested extension of FRSP assistance by a participant is

47 denied, the participant shall be given 30 days written notice prior to the final subsidy payment

48 explicitly setting forth the reason for the denial of additional assistance and inform the

49 participant that:

50 “(I) The FRSP participant has a right to appeal the  
51 determination through a fair hearing and administrative review, including deadlines for  
52 requesting an appeal; and

53 “(II) The FRSP participant has a right to continuation of  
54 FRSP services pending the outcome of any fair hearing requested within 15 days of receipt of  
55 written notice of a termination”.”

56 Sec. 3. Section 11(a) of the Fiscal Year 2024 Revised Local Budget Adjustment  
57 Emergency Act of 2024, passed on June 12, 2024 (Enrolled version of Bill 25-787), is amended  
58 to read as follows:

59 ~~Sec. 2.~~ “(a) Section 7(b)(4)(B) of the Homeless Services Reform Act, effective October  
60 22, 2005 (D.C. Law 16-35; D.C. Official Code § 4-753.01(b)(4)(B)), is amended as follows:

61 (1~~a~~) The existing text is designated as sub-subparagraph (i).

62 (2~~b~~) New sub-subparagraphs (ii), ~~and~~ (iii), and (iv) are added to read as follows:

63 “(ii) Notwithstanding other law, provided that funding be available  
64 within the Family Re-Housing Stabilization Program (“FRSP”) to implement this sub-  
65 subparagraph and sub-subparagraphs (iii) and (iv) of this subparagraph, T~~he~~ Department of  
66 Human Services, or the Department’s designee, shall consider requests for Family Re-Housing  
67 Stabilization Program (FRSP) assistance extending past 12 months if:

68 ~~“(I) There is funding available within FRSP;~~

69 “(II) The participant has requested an extension in writing;

70                                   “(III) The participant has made a good faith effort towards  
71 the achievement of goals set forth in an individualized plan with the aim of a targeted  
72 progression towards exit from the supports of FRSP, as observed by the Service Provider at  
73 consistent intervals, but cannot yet sustain housing stability independently of the program; and

74                                   “(III~~V~~) The participant has not yet been approved for  
75 permanently affordable housing.

76                                   “(iii) When making a determination of whether to grant a  
77 participant in FRSP an extension beyond 12 months, the Department or Department's designee  
78 shall:

79                                   “(I) Consider the totality of the circumstances; and

80                                   “(II) Grant extensions of time in increments not greater  
81 than 6 months, with regular formal reviews every 3 months to ensure that participants are given  
82 the support necessary to exit the program with stable housing.”

83                                   “(iv) If a requested extension of FRSP assistance by a participant is  
84 denied, the participant shall be given 30 days written notice prior to the final subsidy payment  
85 explicitly setting forth the reason for the denial of additional assistance and inform the  
86 participant that:

87                                   “(I) The FRSP participant has a right to appeal the  
88 determination through a fair hearing and administrative review, including deadlines for  
89 requesting an appeal; and

90 “(II) The FRSP participant has a right to continuation of  
91 FRSP services pending the outcome of any fair hearing requested within 15 days of receipt of  
92 written notice of a termination”.”

93 Sec. 4. Sec. 5062(a) of the Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Support Emergency Act of 2024,  
94 passed on June 25, 2024 (Enrolled version of B25-0875), is amended to read as follows:

95 “(a) Section 7(b)(4)(B) of the Homeless Services Reform Act, effective October 22,  
96 2005 (D.C. Law 16-35; D.C. Official Code § 4-753.01(b)(4)(B)), is amended as follows:

97 (1) The existing text is designated as sub-subparagraph (i).

98 (2) New sub-subparagraphs (ii), (iii), and (iv) are added to read as follows:

99 “(ii) Notwithstanding other law, provided funding be available  
100 within the Family Re-Housing Stabilization Program (“FRSP”) to implement this sub-  
101 subparagraphs and sub-subparagraphs (iii) and (iv) of this subparagraph, the Department of  
102 Human Services, or the Department’s designee, shall consider requests for FRSP assistance  
103 extending past 12 months if:

104 “(I) The participant has requested an extension in writing;

105 “(II) The participant has made a good faith effort towards

106 the achievement of goals set forth in an individualized plan with the aim of a targeted  
107 progression towards exit from the supports of FRSP, as observed by the service provider at  
108 consistent intervals, but cannot yet sustain housing stability independently of the program; and

109 “(III) The participant has not yet been approved for  
110 permanently affordable housing.

111 “(iii) When making a determination of whether to grant a  
112 participant in FRSP an extension beyond 12 months, the Department or Department's designee  
113 shall:

114 “(I) Consider the totality of the circumstances; and

115 “(II) Grant extensions of time in increments not greater  
116 than 6 months, with regular formal reviews every 3 months to ensure that participants are given  
117 the support necessary to exit the program with stable housing.”

118 “(iv) If a requested extension of FRSP assistance by a participant is  
119 denied, the participant shall be given 30 days written notice prior to the final subsidy payment  
120 explicitly setting forth the reason for the denial of additional assistance and inform the  
121 participant that:

122 “(I) The FRSP participant has a right to appeal the  
123 determination through a fair hearing and administrative review, including deadlines for  
124 requesting an appeal; and

125 “(II) The FRSP participant has a right to continuation of  
126 FRSP services pending the outcome of any fair hearing requested within 15 days of receipt of  
127 written notice of a termination”.”

128 ~~Sec. 3. Applicability.~~

129 ~~This act shall apply as of July 10, 2024.~~

130 Sec. 54. Fiscal impact statement.

131 The Council adopts the fiscal impact statement of the Budget Director as the fiscal impact  
132 statement required by section 4a of the General Legislative Procedures Act of 1975, approved  
133 October 16, 2006 (120 Stat. 2038; D.C. Official Code § 1-301.47a).

134 Sec. 65. Effective date.

135 (a) This act shall take effect following approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by  
136 the Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), a 30-day period of congressional review  
137 as provided in section 602(c)(1) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved  
138 December 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 788; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02(c)(1)), and publication in the  
139 District of Columbia Register.

140 (b) This act shall expire after 225 days of its having taken effect.