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HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
ACT OF 1974

REPORT
OF THE
COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING AND
URBAN AFFAIRS
UNITED STATES SENATE
TO ACCOMPANY
S. 3066
TOGETHER WITH
SUPPLEMENTAL AND ADDITIONAL VIEWS

FEBRUARY 27, 1974.—Ordered to be printed

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
WASHINGTON : 1974
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INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND OF THE BILL

The committee bill is the product of an extensive period of hearings and study brought about by two acts of critical importance to Federal housing and urban development efforts: first, the rejection by the House Rules Committee in late 1972 of an omnibus housing bill which would have, in part, continued and expanded highly controversial housing subsidy programs; and second, the suspension of these programs by the President in January 1973. As a result of these actions, Federally subsidized housing efforts over the past 18 months virtually ceased, and debate centered on the future role of the Federal Government in meeting the Nation's housing needs.

Although many members of Congress, public officials, and nearly the entire housing industry condemned the Administration's impoundment of housing subsidy funds prior to the development of viable alternative program approaches, the Congress was unwilling to mandate a resumption of the subsidy programs. With limited exceptions, the moratorium continues in effect, frustrating numerous good faith efforts to provide decent housing for thousands of lower income families.

The suspension of housing subsidy programs was accompanied by sharp cutbacks in Federal community development efforts as well, pending enactment of the Administration's "Better Communities Act." Although the Administration subsequently agreed to substantially higher program levels than proposed in the FY 1974 budget for the urban renewal and model cities programs, hundreds of local
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HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACT
OF 1974

AUGUST 12, 1974—Ordered to be printed

Mr. Patman, from the committee of conference,
submitted the following

CONFERENCE REPORT
[To accompany S. 3066]

The committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two
Houses on the amendments of the House to the bill (S. 3066) to
consolidate, simplify, and improve laws relative to housing and hous­
ing assistance, to provide Federal assistance in support of community
development activities, and for other purposes, having met, after
full and free conference, have agreed to recommend and do recommend
to their respective Houses as follows:

That the Senate recede from its disagreement to the amendment
of the House to the text of the bill and agree to the same with an
amendment as follows:

In lieu of the matter proposed to be inserted by the House amend­
ment to the text of the bill insert the following:

That this Act may be cited as the “Housing and Community Develop­
ment Act of 1974”.

TITLE I—COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

FINDINGS AND PURPOSE

Sec. 101. (a) The Congress finds and declares that the Nation’s cities,
towns, and smaller urban communities face critical social, economic,
and environmental problems arising in significant measure from—

(1) the growth of population in metropolitan and other urban
areas, and the concentration of persons of lower income in central
cities; and

(2) inadequate public and private investment and reinvestment
in housing and other physical facilities, and related public and
social services, resulting in the growth and persistence of urban
slums and blight and the marked deterioration of the quality of
the urban environment.
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