

**ASSEMBLY CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. 134**

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 24, 2020

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman BRITNEE N. TIMBERLAKE

District 34 (Essex and Passaic)

Assemblywoman MILA M. JASEY

District 27 (Essex and Morris)

Assemblywoman VALERIE VAINIERI HUTTLE

District 37 (Bergen)

SYNOPSIS

Urges President and Congress to enact “Eviction Crisis Act of 2019” and “Family Stability and Opportunity Vouchers Act of 2019.”

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/5/2020)

1 **A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION** urging the President and Congress of
2 the United States to enact the “Eviction Crisis Act of 2019” and
3 the “Family Stability and Opportunity Vouchers Act of 2019.”
4
5 **WHEREAS**, Living in a stable home yields a multitude of opportunities
6 and stronger outcomes for children, youth, and adults, because a
7 stable home provides a platform for improved outcomes in
8 employment, health, and education; and
9 **WHEREAS**, When a person experiences homelessness, the person’s
10 future educational attainment, employment growth, health stability,
11 and family preservation are significantly reduced; and
12 **WHEREAS**, In the United States, three out of every four low income
13 households in need of housing assistance are denied federal help
14 due to the chronic underfunding of federal assistance programs; and
15 **WHEREAS**, Six million families with children lack stable housing, are
16 at risk of losing their homes, or live in unsafe or overcrowded
17 conditions; and
18 **WHEREAS**, In 2016, 2.3 million eviction filings were made in
19 courthouses across the United States and one in 50 renters was
20 evicted from their home; and
21 **WHEREAS**, In 2017, the United States Department of Housing and
22 Urban Development (HUD) reported that more than eight million
23 households with very low income pay more than 50 percent of their
24 household income for housing costs, making it extremely difficult
25 to pay for transportation, child-care, food, medical expenses, and
26 other necessities; and
27 **WHEREAS**, In 2018, over 150,000 New Jersey families faced eviction,
28 and on average three out of four New Jersey families in poverty
29 who rent spent at least half of their income on housing, leaving
30 these families with little extra money for addressing unexpected
31 expenses; and
32 **WHEREAS**, The federal “Eviction Crisis Act of 2019,” a bi-partisan
33 bill introduced by United States Senators Michael Bennett (D-
34 Colo.) and Rob Portman (R-Ohio), addresses the national housing
35 crisis crippling millions of Americans by improving data and
36 analysis on evictions, reducing preventable evictions and eviction-
37 related consequences, and improving information on tenant
38 screening reports; and
39 **WHEREAS**, The federal “Family Stability and Opportunity Vouchers
40 Act of 2019,” a bi-partisan bill introduced by United States
41 Senators Chris Van Hollen (D-Md.) and Todd Young (R-Ind.),
42 addresses the lack of housing vouchers available throughout the
43 nation by creating an additional 500,000 housing vouchers over five
44 years for low-income, high-need families with young children; and
45 **WHEREAS**, It is altogether fitting and proper to urge the President and
46 Congress of the United States to enact the “Eviction Crisis Act of
47 2019” and the “Family Stability and Opportunity Vouchers Act of

2019,” to ensure all families can live in an affordable, stable home;
now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED *by the General Assembly of the State of New Jersey (the Senate concurring):*

1. The President and Congress of the United States are urged to enact the “Eviction Crisis Act of 2019” and the “Family Stability and Opportunity Vouchers Act of 2019,” to ensure all families can live in an affordable, stable home.

2. Copies of this resolution, as filed with the Secretary of State, shall be transmitted by the Clerk of the General Assembly or the Secretary of the Senate to the President of the United States, Majority and Minority Leaders of the United States Senate, to the Speaker and Minority Leader of the United States House of Representatives, and to each member of the United States Congress elected from this State.

STATEMENT

This concurrent resolution urges the President and Congress of the United States to enact the “Eviction Crisis Act of 2019” and the “Family Stability and Opportunity Vouchers Act of 2019,” to ensure all families can live in an affordable, stable home.

In the United States, three out of every four low income households in need of housing assistance are denied federal help due to chronic underfunding of federal assistance programs. Additionally, six million families with children lack stable housing, are at risk of losing their homes, or live in unsafe or overcrowded conditions.

In 2016, 2.3 million eviction filings were made in courthouses across the United States and one in 50 renters was evicted from their home. In 2017, the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) reported that more than eight million households with very low income pay more than 50 percent of their household income for housing costs, making it extremely difficult to pay for transportation, child-care, food, medical expenses, and other necessities.

In 2018, over 150,000 New Jersey families faced eviction, and on average three out of four New Jersey families in poverty who rent spent at least half of their income on housing, leaving these families with little extra money for addressing unexpected expenses.

The federal “Eviction Crisis Act of 2019,” a bi-partisan bill introduced by United States Senators Michael Bennett (D-Colo.) and Rob Portman (R-Ohio), addresses the national housing crisis

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2 evictions, reducing preventable evictions and eviction-related
3 consequences, and improving information on tenant screening
4 reports.

5 The federal “Family Stability and Opportunity Vouchers Act of
6 2019,” a bi-partisan bill introduced by United States Senators Chris
7 Van Hollen (D-Md.) and Todd Young (R-Ind.), addresses the lack
8 of housing vouchers available throughout the nation by creating an
9 additional 500,000 housing vouchers over five years for low-
10 income, high-need families with young children.