

1 Brianne K. Nadeau  
2 Councilmember Brianne K. Nadeau

Phil Mendelson  
Chairman Phil Mendelson

3  
4  
5 BE R  
6  
7 Councilmember Brooke Pinto

8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15 A BILL  
16 \_\_\_\_\_

17  
18 IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
19 \_\_\_\_\_  
20

21 To amend, on a temporary basis, the District of Columbia Housing Authority Act of 1999 to  
22 allow applicants for local rent supplement vouchers to self-certify eligibility factors; and  
23 to prohibit the Housing Authority from inquiring into an applicant’s immigration status or  
24 prior criminal arrests, convictions, or pending criminal matters.  
25

26 BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this  
27 act may be cited as the “Local Rent Supplement Program Eligibility Temporary Amendment Act  
28 of 2022”.

29 Sec. 2. The District of Columbia Housing Authority Act of 1999, effective May 9,  
30 2000 (D.C. Law 13-105; D.C. Official Code § 6-201 et seq.), is amended as follows:

31 (a) Section 26a(c) (D.C. Official Code § 6-226(c)) is amended to read as follows:

32 “(c)(1) Except as prescribed in paragraphs (2), (3), and (4) of this subsection, the  
33 Authority shall apply its existing Partnership Program and Housing Choice Voucher Program  
34 rules to govern eligibility, admission, and continuing occupancy by tenants in units receiving  
35 tenant-based, sponsor-based, or project-based voucher assistance under this section, §§ 6-227 , 2-  
36 228, and 6-229.

37                   “(2) The Authority shall not inquire about nor consider for the purposes of  
38 eligibility, admission, or continued occupancy any information about citizenship, immigration  
39 status, or prior criminal arrests, convictions, or pending criminal matters.

40                   “(3) Rules governing eligibility, admission, and continuing occupancy by tenants  
41 in units receiving tenant-based, sponsor-based, or project-based voucher assistance under this  
42 section, § 6-227, 6-228, or § 6-229 shall not be inconsistent with this section, § 6-227, 6-228, or  
43 § 6-229.

44                   “(4)(A) The Authority shall allow applicants or participants to self-certify any  
45 required eligibility, admission, or continued occupancy factors when an applicant cannot easily  
46 obtain verification documentation.

47                   “(B) Self-certification by the applicant at the time of initial eligibility shall  
48 be final and remain sufficient for purposes of continued occupancy recertifications.

49                   (5) The Authority shall promulgate such additional rules as are necessary to  
50 ensure that eligibility for tenancy in the units supported by grants under this section is limited to  
51 households with gross income at or below 30% of the area median income.”.

52                   (b) Section 26b(c) (D.C. Official Code § 6-227(c)) is amended to read as follows:

53                   “(c)(1) Except as prescribed in paragraphs (2), (3), and (4) of this subsection, the  
54 Authority shall apply its existing Partnership Program and Housing Choice Voucher Program  
55 rules to govern eligibility, admission, and continuing occupancy by tenants in units receiving  
56 sponsor-based or project-based voucher assistance under this section, §§ 6-226, and 6-229.

57                   “(2) The Authority shall not inquire about nor consider for the purposes of  
58 eligibility, admission, or continued occupancy any information about citizenship, immigration  
59 status, or prior criminal arrests, convictions, or pending criminal matters.

60                   “(3) Rules governing eligibility, admission, and continuing occupancy by tenants  
61 in units receiving sponsor-based or project-based voucher assistance under this section, § 6-226,  
62 or § 6-229 shall not be inconsistent with this section, § 6-226, or § 6-229.

63                   “(4)(A) The Authority shall allow applicants or participants to self-certify any  
64 required eligibility, admission, or continued occupancy factors when an applicant cannot easily  
65 obtain verification documentation.

66                   “(B) Self-certification by the applicant at the time of initial eligibility shall  
67 be final and remain sufficient for purposes of continued occupancy recertifications.

68                   (5) The Authority shall promulgate such additional rules as are necessary to  
69 ensure that eligibility for tenancy in the units supported by grants under this section is limited to  
70 households with gross income at or below 30% of the area median income.

71                   (c) Section 26c(a) (D.C. Official Code § 6-228(a) is amended to read as follows:

72                   “(a)(1)The funds allocated for tenant-based assistance shall be administered through the  
73 Authority’s Housing Choice Voucher Program.

74                   “(2) Except as provided in paragraphs (3), (4), and (5) of this section, tenant-  
75 based assistance provided through the Rent Supplement Program shall be subject to the  
76 Authority’s existing rules, regulations, policies, and procedures for the Housing Choice Voucher  
77 Program;

78                   “(3) The Authority shall not inquire about nor consider for the purposes of  
79 eligibility, admission or continued occupancy any information about immigration status or prior  
80 criminal arrests, convictions, or pending criminal matters.

81                   “(4) Rules governing eligibility, admission, and continuing occupancy by tenants  
82 in units receiving tenant-based voucher assistance under this section shall not be inconsistent  
83 with this section or § 6-226.

84                   “(5)(A) The Authority shall allow applicants or participants to self-certify any  
85 required eligibility, admission, or continued occupancy factors when an applicant cannot easily  
86 obtain verification documentation.

87                   “(B) Self-certification by the applicant at the time of initial eligibility shall  
88 be final and remain sufficient for purposes of continued occupancy recertifications.

89                   “(6) Existing rules, regulations, policies, and procedures affecting the Rent  
90 Supplement Program shall be submitted for Council review as required by §6-226.”.

91                   Sec. 3. Fiscal impact statement.

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

95                   Sec. 4. Effective date.

96                   (a) This act shall take effect following approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by  
97 the Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), a 30-day period of congressional review  
98 as provided in section 602(c)(1) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December  
99 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02(c)(1)), and publication in the District of  
100 Columbia Register.

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

102

103