

Proposed changes by the Vermont Housing Finance Agency to House General, Housing, and Military Affairs draft 2.1 dated June 9, 2020:

(3) Foreclosure protection. \$6,000,000

to the Vermont Housing Finance Agency to provide financial and technical assistance to stabilize low- and moderate-income homeowners and prevent home foreclosures for Vermont families.

(A) The Agency shall design and implement a program to ~~provide funding to statewide and regional housing partner organizations who shall~~ administer the distribution of funds to homeowners in need of assistance and provide technical assistance to homeowners in need.

(B)(i) The Agency shall ~~require housing partner organizations that receive funding to~~ develop a standard application form for homeowners that describes the application process and includes clear instructions and examples to help homeowners apply.

(ii) The selection process shall ensure equitable approval of applications and a distribution system that ensures accountability for ~~both the partner organizations and~~ homeowners receiving the funds.

(C) The Agency shall develop eligibility requirements ~~for housing partners~~ to implement to ensure the funds are applied towards homeowners equitably, including:

(i) limitations for eligibility regarding the earned income of the homeowners in comparison to the area median income.

(ii) forms and guidelines for homeowners to show certification or other proof of a demonstrable need for assistance;

(iii) limitations on actual cash benefits, which shall not exceed the actual mortgage liability or ~~three~~six times the monthly mortgage liability, whichever is less; and

(iv) a re-application process that provides that if there are remaining programmatic funds at the end of the ~~three~~six-month period, the homeowner may re-apply for assistance.]