

## **ON POINT:** **SECTION 8 HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER PROGRAM**

### **BACKGROUND**

*The Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program has long served as America's primary affordable rental housing program. Funded by HUD and administered by local public housing authorities, the program provides subsidized rents for qualifying low-income families in private rental housing. However, the program is currently plagued with inefficiencies and burdensome regulatory requirements, as well as a flawed funding system.*

*These issues limit – and even discourage – private property owners and managers from participating in the program. Affordable housing needs cannot be met without private sector participation. As a result, lawmakers must address these concerns to further attract private housing providers' participation in this voluntary program.*

### **KEY TALKING POINTS**

- **The affordable housing needs of Americans nationwide** have never been greater.
- **Strengthening partnerships between public and private sector participants** in the Section 8 housing choice voucher program can help address critical affordable housing needs.
- **Addressing the problems that currently plague the Section 8 program**, which prevent private property owners and managers from participating, will help ensure that affordable housing needs are met nationwide.
- **To help ensure success and further encourage private sector participation**, the Section 8 program must be improved upon in the following ways:
  - Streamlining property inspection requirements;
  - Ensuring and continuing the voluntary nature of the program; and
  - Funding predictability from Congress and honoring existing contracts.

### **SPECIFIC REQUEST**

**Thank members of the House for approving H.R. 3700, “the Housing Opportunity through Modernization Act,”** which encourages common sense reforms in the Section 8 Housing Voucher Program. The bill streamlines the property inspection process and also extends the contract term for project-based vouchers from 15 years to 20 years. **Ask members of the Senate** to adopt the Section 8 reforms contained in H.R. 3700.