

COMMITTEE ON HOUSING ~ BILL SUMMARY

Bill Number: H.4015

Name: An Act promoting housing stability for older adults across the Commonwealth

Sponsor(s): Representative Shirley Arriaga (8th Hampden)

Hearing Date: July 23, 2025

Prior History: New File

Reporting Deadline: September 21, 2025

Similar Matters:

CURRENT LAW: *Line Item 7004-0107 of Section 2 of Chapter 140 of the Acts of 2024* – Provides a capital authorization for the City of Somerville to establish a short-term housing bridge pilot program to facilitate interim housing stability for individuals applying for more affordable permanent housing situations; provided further, that eligibility for the pilot program shall include households with individuals who are 60 or older.

M.G.L. c. 19A § 4B – Aging Services Access Points

PROPOSED CHANGE:

This bill would establish a steering committee relative to expanding a short-term housing bridge pilot program established in Line Item 7004-0107 of Chapter 140 of the Acts of 2024 to include all residents of the Commonwealth; are eligible for housing under items 7004-0107, 7004-9005 or 7004-9024 of section 2 of chapter 140 of the acts of 2024; have incomes of not more than 80 per cent of the area median income; and at risk of eviction due to their inability to consistently pay rent. Households participating in the pilot program shall not, while receiving such assistance, be required to pay more than 30 per cent of their monthly adjusted income for rent, mortgage or other housing financial obligations.

The steering committee shall consist of the following members: the secretary of housing and livable communities, or a designee, who shall serve as chair; a representative of the executive office of aging and independence; a representative of the Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless, Inc.; a representative of each of the participating aging services access points, established pursuant to section 4B of chapter 19A of the General Laws; a representative of the Home Care Alliance of Massachusetts, Inc.; 3 older adults who have experienced housing instability or homelessness, to be nominated by the Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless, Inc.; the house and senate chairs of the joint committee on elder affairs; the house and senate chairs of the joint committee on housing; 1 additional member of the senate to be

appointed by the president of the senate; 1 additional member of the house of representatives to be appointed by the speaker of the house; and other members as deemed appropriate by the secretary.

The committee shall coordinate and advise the agencies toward establishing and expanding a short-term housing bridge pilot program to facilitate interim housing stability for households with individuals 60 years of age or older residing in the pilot program's designated service areas. Annually, not later than December 31, the committee shall file a report with the governor, the house and senate committees on ways and means, the joint committee on elder affairs and the joint committee on housing.