

Date of Hearing: September 12, 2013

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
Ed Chau, Chair

AB 873 (Chau) – As Amended: September 6, 2013

SUBJECT: Housing: emergency housing and assistance funding.

SUMMARY: Establishes new eligible uses and priorities for funding under the Emergency Housing and Assistance Program (EHAP), with an added focus on providing permanent supportive housing for homeless families and individuals. Specifically, this bill:

- 1) Allows the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) to award EHAP capital development (EHAP-CD) funds in the form of a 20-year forgivable loan for the conversion of emergency shelters or transitional housing to permanent supportive housing for homeless families or individuals.
- 2) Allows HCD to award EHAP operating facility grant (EHAP-OFG) funds for the rapid rehousing of homeless clients.
- 3) With respect to EHAP award rounds that HCD initiates between January 1, 2014, and June 30, 2015, allows HCD to award funds pursuant to requirements exempt from the Administrative Procedures Act and requires HCD to:
 - a) Make funding available on a competitive basis statewide;
 - b) In addition to traditional applicants, accept applications from public housing authorities, tribal governments, and continuum of care entities;
 - c) Give priority for EHAP-CD funds to applicants proposing to convert existing emergency shelters or transitional housing to permanent supportive housing for homeless families or individuals; and
 - d) Give priority for EHAP-OFG funds to applicants that propose rapid rehousing activities that leverage additional funding sources or focus on high-cost users of more than one system of care.
- 4) Requires HCD to transfer any EHAP-CD funds derived from the Proposition 46 or 1C housing bonds that remain as of June 30, 2015, to the supportive housing component of the Multifamily Housing Program (MHP-SH).
- 5) Includes chaptering amendments to address conflicts with AB 1109 (Bonilla) of this legislative session.

EXISTING LAW

- 1) Establishes EHAP to fund capital development activities for emergency shelters, transitional housing, and safe havens that provide shelter and supportive services for homeless individuals and families and to provide operating grants for emergency shelters, transitional