

# Housing as a Human Right: Expanding Vouchers to End Homelessness

## Who cares?

- People with lived experience
- Fellow community members
- Advocacy groups & non-profits

## Important Facts

1. The U.S. saw a continued increase in the number of people experiencing homelessness since the last pre-pandemic count in 2020, particularly among people experiencing unsheltered homelessness. On any given night, nearly 582,500 people have no other place to sleep than in emergency shelters, on the streets, and other places unfit for human habitation.
2. If someone is experiencing homelessness or housing instability, they essentially have to roll the dice and hope that they are lucky enough to get help; today, 4 out of 5 households who qualify for a Housing Choice Voucher are turned away.
3. People of color have been particularly hard hit and continue to experience disproportionate rates of housing instability and homelessness.

# Ending Homelessness Act of 2023

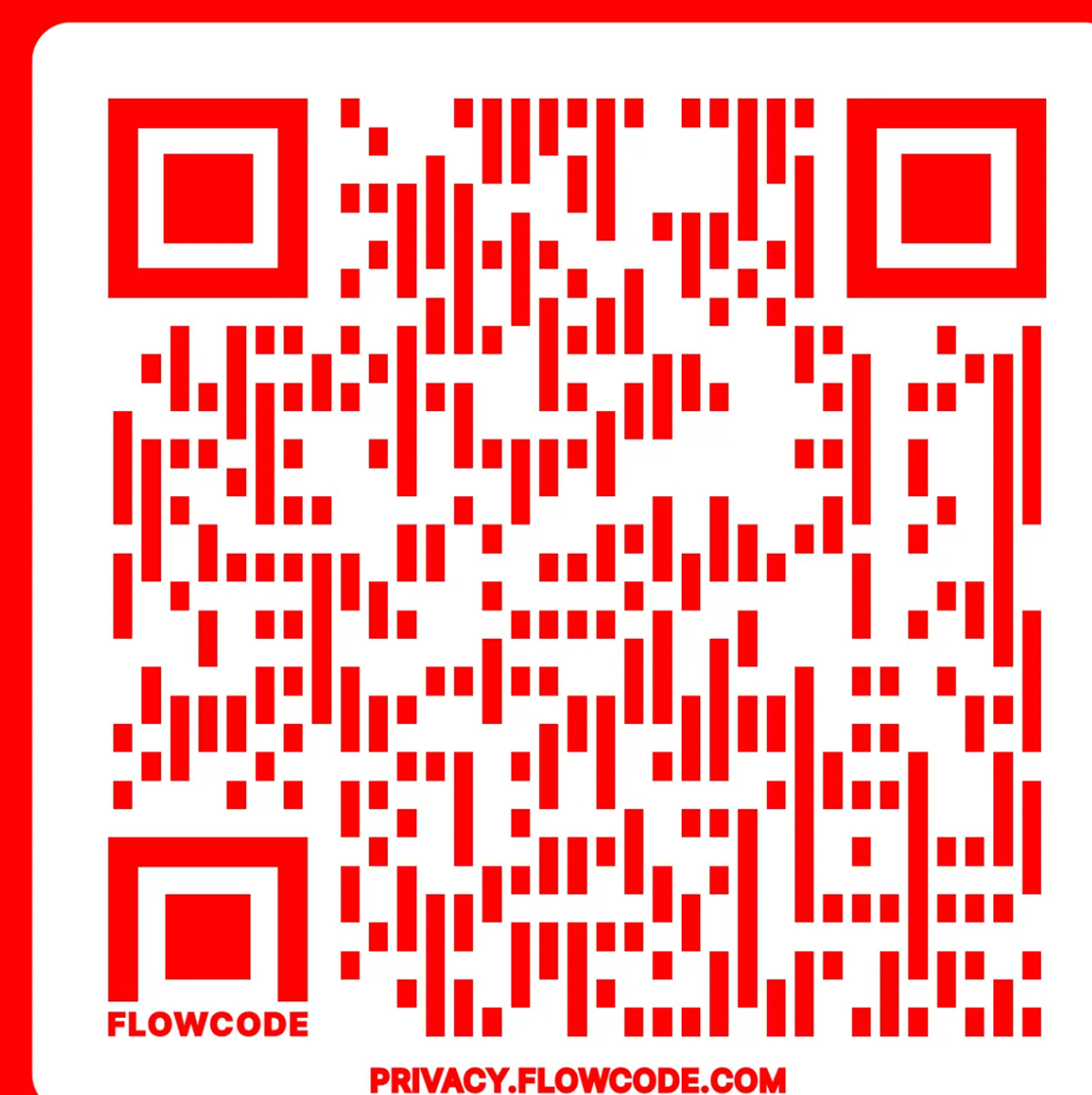
H.R. 4232  
118th Congress (2023–2024)  
Reintroduced on June 21, 2023 by  
Representative Maxine Waters (D-CA)  
House Committee on Financial Services

**Focus Area:** Expanding and Transforming the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program into a federal entitlement.

**Synopsis:** A major component of the Ending Homelessness Act of 2023 seeks to expand and transform the Housing Choice Voucher program into a federal entitlement, ensuring all eligible low-income families receive housing assistance while providing additional resources to combat homelessness nationwide.

**Funding:** Appropriates the amount necessary to fund incremental vouchers allocated under this section, annual voucher renewal costs, and administrative fees for vouchers allocated under this section. Congress would allocate money from the federal budget specifically for this program each year.

**Results:** This portion of the bill, in tandem with the other sections, could create upwards of 410,000 new units of housing for people experiencing homelessness and would effectively end widespread homelessness and housing instability.

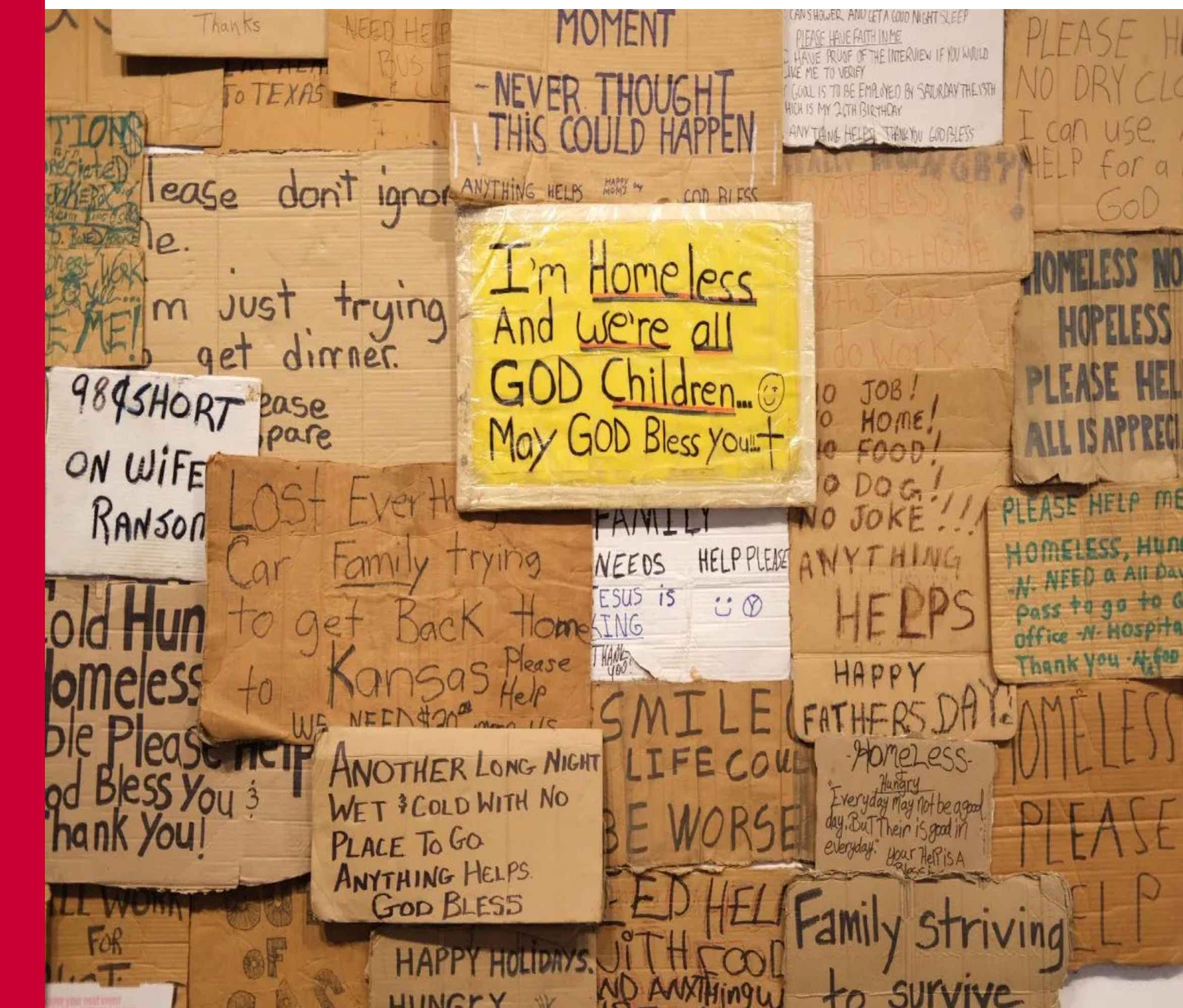


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## What is a Housing Choice Voucher?

A form of government assistance that helps low-income individuals and families pay for housing. It's like a discount for rent —once someone has a voucher, they only have to pay a portion of their income toward rent (usually 30%), and the government covers the rest.



“Homelessness is a choice, not a choice by people sleeping on the streets but a choice by the rest of us to look the other away” - Jill Khadduri and Marybeth Shinn, *In the Midst of Plenty*

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