

Wayne Allard

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ALLARD INTRODUCES HOUSING REFORM BILL LEGISLATION WILL REFORM HUD AND GIVE MORE POWER TO STATES

Washington, D.C. – U.S. Senator Wayne Allard (R-CO), Chairman of the Senate Subcommittee on Housing and Transportation, has introduced S. 2968, The Local Housing Opportunities Act. Allard's bill would reform a significant number of the 328 programs currently administered by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

“This legislation is the product of over a dozen congressional hearings conducted in Washington and around the country over the last year and half,” Allard said. “It is clear that many of HUD's current programs can be better run at the state and local level. We need to take a new and different approach in how we meet our nation's housing needs.”

Allard introduced The Local Housing Opportunities Act after a month long public comment period on a similar draft bill he circulated in late June.

“I believe many of the solutions to our housing problems are not found in Washington, D.C. but rather in our local communities,” added Allard. “What works in New York City is different than what works in Denver, Colorado or Seattle, Washington. The one size fits all approach that HUD currently uses no longer works.”

S.2968 would terminate 23 current HUD programs that are outdated or inactive and combines HUD's six homeless assistance programs into a “McKinney Homeless Assistance Performance Fund” - a single formula block grant distributed to cities and states. Allard's bill also includes provisions to expand the “Moving to Work” program to all Public Housing Authorities (PHA) and improves current voucher programs at HUD.

“This legislation is about empowering communities and individuals,” Allard said. “My desire is to develop a bill that gives communities an opportunity to solve their local housing problems.”

Allard said he hopes to hold a hearing on his bill before the Housing and Transportation Subcommittee in September.

