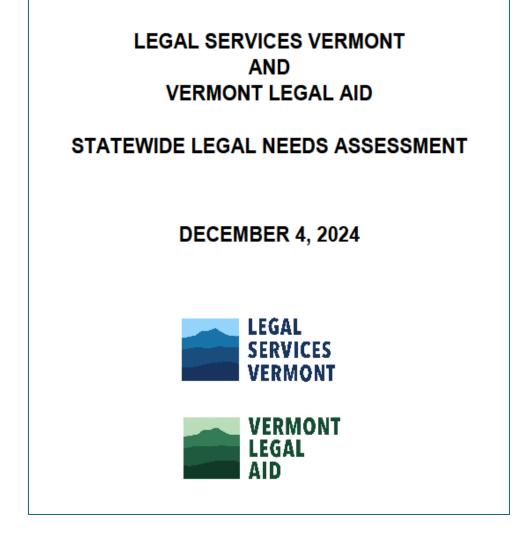
Vermont Legal Aid

Testimony on H.91

Maryellen Griffin, Staff Attorney

Vermont is in the midst of an eviction crisis, with pervasive and destabilizing impacts on low-income Vermonters.



Availability and eligibility recommendations

- Remove fixed room cap
- Transparent method to determine availability
- Maintain current eligibility standards

Concerns about barriers to access

Barriers our clients are reporting:

- Needing to call, sit on hold, day after day
- Inability to get an appointment with a medical provider to sign a disability variance form
- Hotels that will not take service animals
- Do Not Rent lists
- Written award letters not issued, confusion and errors resulting

Housing Authorization PDF

The authorization should be saved as a PDF and emailed to the hotel for the approved application

Separtment for Children and Families – Agency of Human Services Summits Services Detector (Jud Krei) 605–1794–191 consult (end of Lanz	21664А
Emergency Housing Authorization	and Billing Form
The Stain of Vermont, Economic Services Division (FSD) will proceed payme and rearned. The more or sister agency must complete and return the form process payment for forms received more than 60 days after the check- rights provided or the client does not arrive as plasmed, plasse restly:	within 90 days of the check-out date. ESD will not
To be completed by Notel Reservationist, ESD/211 "Please provide all	information down to the double line**
Notel Name: North Star Muter	
Notel Address: 2427 Shelburne Road	
Stabure, VE 0:452	
Face Telephone #	
Authorization R: rEbrSGFk	
Type of Authorization: Categorical Eligibility Categorical Eligibility	anditions Only
Fred of Household (HH) name: Colosimphis GA	HH DOP, 04010000
Name of other adults in the household/toom:	
HUD: 2015 TH 275	
https://www.warser. 8025551111 #Adults in Hit: 1	# Children in 1915 0
Room Number: 121 Check-in data: 04/10/	
Total # of hights: 14	Total Coat of Day: 1120.00
Raie: 5 80.00 Weeknight \$ 80.00 Week	
Staff person authorizing day: Christopher O'Conner	
Notel contact (for questions):	
Phone &: E-mail address:	
Noted billing address:	
	Output of the
For guest(s) shows Check in date:	
Rate per week hight: \$ Rate per weekend night: \$	Total amount due: 5
The State of Vermont is law exempt. The State of VT Tax /D number is \$3.60	03264.
Rile should be enveloped to also defermined in a province of any	
Other submission methods include fits or mell: Application and 7 283 State Drive	
Webshary, VT 0 Fee # (802) 241-	
Waterbary, VT 0	
Waterbary, VT 0	
Waterbary, VT 0	



What is a reasonable accommodation?

To ensure equal access for people with disabilities, the law requires the government to make reasonable accommodations to assure equal access for people with disabilities. A reasonable accommodation is "a change, exception, or adjustment to a rule, policy, practice, or service that may be necessary for a person with a disability to have an equal opportunity to use and enjoy a dwelling."

Joint Statement of the Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Department of Justice, FAQ 7, available at <u>https://www.hud.gov/sites/dfiles/FHEO/documents/huddojstatement.pdf</u>

Expedited appeals

Appeals for emergency housing should be resolved quickly.

The biggest delay we are seeing is in access to the records.

Returns to homelessness, compiled from DCF Housing Reports

	Total entering coordinated entry	Number returning to homelessness after exiting to permanent housing	Number returning to homeless after exiting to non- permanent placements	Total percent return to homelessness after exiting homelessness
December, 2024	565	178 (31.5%)	91 (16%)	47.5%
November, 2024	403	115 (28.5%)	79 (19.6%)	48.1%
October, 2024	532	110 (20.67%)	122 (23%)	43.67 %
September, 2024	495	132 (26.66%)	93 (18%)	44.66%

January report on December https://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Legislative-Reports/Act-113-Monthly-Housing-Report-01.31.2025.pdf; December report on November https://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Legislative-Reports/Act-113-Monthly-Housing-Reporting-12.31.2024.pdf; November report on October numbers https://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Legislative-Reports/Act-113-Monthly-Housing-Reporting-12.31.2024.pdf; October report, on September data https://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Legislative-Reports/Act-113-DCF-Housing-Report-11.30.2024.pdf; October report, on September data https://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Legislative-Reports/Act-113-DCF-Housing-Report-11.30.2024.pdf; October report, on September data

@homelessimpact

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HOW DO WE STOP IT?

To reverse rising levels of homelessness, we need to reduce housing and financial insecurity until no one is driven into homelessness.

