



MEMORANDUM

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TO: Rep. Theresa Wood, Chair, House Committee on Human Services
FROM: Joseph Reinert, Chief Hearing Officer, Human Services Board (HSB)
DATE: October 29, 2025
RE: HSB – Status of Appeals post-Gubernatorial Executive Order

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony to the Committee regarding the status of HSB General Assistance (GA) housing appeals since the expiration of Executive Order 03-25 on June 30, 2025. This is to provide the following information in advance of my testimony on October 30, 2025.

HSB GA Housing Appeals Received Since June 15, 2025¹

- Total # of appeals received: 401
- Outcomes:
 - Preliminary hearing officer decision or Board Order reversing the Department: 103²
 - Order of housing pending the decision granted – decision pending: 70
 - Dismissed by Clerk: 44

¹ This date is a more accurate reflection when the HSB began receiving appeals related to the end of E.O. 03-25, because many emergency housing participants had been notified in June that their housing assistance would end as of July 1, 2025.

² The vast majority of these cases involve preliminary hearing officer decisions, not Board orders.

○ Withdrawn by Petitioner, Outcome Unknown:	35
○ Board order affirming the Department or recommendation pending before the Board:	20
○ Withdrawn in Petitioner's favor:	10
○ Withdrawn in Dept's favor:	7
○ Scheduled for hearing, pending Clerk Dismissal or pending confirmation of withdrawal:	119

Many of these appeals have required multiple hearings, especially in cases where the Petitioner has requested to be housed while the hearing is pending. The most common issue presented is the Department's application of the 80-day maximum on assistance under Act 27. A handful of cases have involved reasonable accommodation requests and a few have involved the GA program's self-housing/income contribution requirement. The hearing officers have issued numerous orders of housing pending the hearing, most commonly in cases involving the 80-day issue.

Of note, the HSB has received 556 GA emergency housing appeals since January 1, 2025. To put that in perspective, we received 118 GA emergency housing appeals over the entirety of 2019 and 152 such appeals in 2020, during a time when we were not receiving, in effect, housing pending the hearing requests. In 2025, we are currently on pace to receive approximately 680 GA housing appeals for the entire year. This number, by itself, is around 85 percent of the average number of appeals we received from 2019-2022 – around 800 per year – for all appeals from all Department and programs combined, at the same level of staffing we have today. We are currently on pace to receive around 1,430 total appeals in 2025.

I look forward to answering any questions from Committee regarding this topic during my testimony.