

**DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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California Department of Housing and Community Development Responds to Drought Challenges with Special Funding for Critical Areas

Sacramento – Acting to implement emergency legislation to help families who face economic uncertainty because of the drought, the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) announced today that \$21 million in funding for rental assistance will soon be available.

Funding is provided through the emergency drought legislation signed by Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. and will be offered to eligible Californians and communities in the coming months as economic impacts from the drought are expected to peak.

Today's announcement opens the public comment periods for three separate emergency rental assistance efforts:

- **\$10 million – SB 104 (Emergency Drought Legislation)**
Create a more flexible and nimble program to deliver rental assistance quickly, effectively and efficiently to those who are negatively affected by the drought.
- **\$6 million – Funding available through HCD's HOME Investment Partnerships Program**
Tenant based rental assistance for eligible cities and counties to mitigate the effects of the drought on the ability of lower income households to afford rent and utilities.
- **\$5 million – Funding available through HCD's Community Development Block Grant Program**
Subsistence payments for eligible cities and counties to mitigate the effects of the drought on the ability of lower income households to afford rent and utilities.

Public comments will help program administrators distribute funds effectively to help people who need this assistance the most.

Please direct all comments to:

If mailed, send to: Public Comments for Drought Assistance
Department of Housing and Community Development
PO Box 952054
Sacramento, CA 94252-2054
Attention – Susan Naramore

If e-mailed, send to: Susan.Naramore@hcd.ca.gov. Add “Public Comments for Drought Assistance” in the subject line.

Visit Drought.CA.Gov to learn more about how California is dealing with the effects of the drought, and for more water conservation ideas, visit SaveOurH2O.org.

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The California Department of Housing and Community Development is dedicated to the preservation and expansion of safe and affordable housing so more Californians have a place to call home. Our team works to ensure an adequate supply of housing for Californians and promotes the growth of strong communities through its leadership, policy and program development. For more information, please visit www.hcd.ca.gov.