

## FY 2020 Programmatic and Language Appropriations Request

→ Please complete the highlighted fields below

→ NOTE: An asterisk (\*) indicates a drop-down menu selection

### Requesting Organization: National Rural Housing Coalition

D.C. Contact	Local Contact
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### All Requests:

<b>Subcommittee*</b> <b>Agriculture</b>	<b>Agency</b> <b>Rural Development</b>	<b>Account</b> <b>Rural Housing Insurance</b> <b>Fund – Section 515 Rural</b> <b>Rental Housing Loans</b>
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1. For Defense requests, please include line number (e.g., RDTE, A line 30):
2. This is request \_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ submitted to this office.
3. This is request \_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ in this bill.
4. Are you making this request to other offices? \_\_\_\_\_  
 If yes, please list other offices receiving this request.

**Programmatic Funding Requests:**

1. Amount requested:	\$50 million
2. Amount included in the President’s most recent budget:	0
3. Requested amount increase/decrease over the President’s most recent budget:	+\$50 million
4. Referencing President’s Budget for (use most recent available):	Section 515 Rental Housing Loans
5. FY19 appropriated amount:	\$40 million
6. Requested amount increase/decrease in relation to FY19 appropriations:	+\$10 million

7. Justification for request:

Section 515 was once the primary source of rental housing financing in rural America. Since the program offers long loan terms and lower interest rates, it has been able to develop and preserve affordable rental housing for very vulnerable residents, mostly elderly and disabled households. Today, approximately 416,000 families live in housing financed by Section 515. A vast majority (92.3 percent as of 2015) of Section 515 tenants have very low incomes, earning no more than 50 percent of the Area Median Income (AMI). The average Section 515 tenant earns just \$13,181 each year. In addition, 62 percent of all Section 515 households are elderly or disabled tenants, 31.2 percent are headed by persons of color and 71.1 percent are headed by women. However, since 1987, the program has been cut drastically from \$555 million to just \$40 million. This has made it far more difficult for rural communities to attract other critical resources, like the Low Income Housing Tax Credit, which is now the primary source of rental housing funding, putting rural America at a real disadvantage.

**Report or Bill Language Requests:**

8. The language being requested should be included in the: Bill

9. Language being requested: \$50,000,000 for Section 515 rental housing;

10. Justification for request: The increase is desperately needed to repair and preserve rural rental housing. In 2016, USDA published a second Comprehensive Property Assessment and Portfolio Analysis. The 2004 USDA report estimated that an additional \$2.6 billion would be necessary over the next 20 years to preserve the portfolio. However, the 2016 report found that the need had more than doubled in the past 12 years, and raised the estimate to \$5.596

billion just to preserve USDA's rental housing stock (including farm labor, Multi-family Preservation, and guaranteed developments) over the next 20 years. Of that amount, \$4.7 billion relates to Section 515 developments.

11. Has this language been included in previous Fiscal Years? If so, please provide reference information below.

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Bill Number</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Division</b>	<b>Section</b>	<b>Page Number</b>
FY 2019	H.J. Res. 31	III	Rural Development	Rural Housing	47
FY 2018	HR 1625	III	Rural Development	Rural Housing	18
FY 2017	HR 244	III	Rural Development	Rural Housing	17