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House of Representatives
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MEMORANDUM

To: All House Members

From: Rep. Tony DeLuca

Date: September 21, 2012

Subject: Co-Sponsorship of Legislation to Memorialize Congress to Review and Reform the Department of Housing and Urban Development's Housing Choice Voucher Program (Section 8).

In the near future, I will introduce a resolution memorializing Congress to create a commission to review and make recommendations on reforming the Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) housing programs, with a particular emphasis placed on reforming the Housing Choice Voucher Program commonly known as Section 8.

As you are all aware, the Section 8 Program provides low income families and individuals with housing vouchers that they can use to subsidize the cost of the rent. Unfortunately, this program has been plagued with many problems. These problems include substandard conditions of Section 8 approved rental properties, high concentrations of low income housing, and sharp reductions in the amount of owner-occupied housing in certain communities.

I believe these problems have destabilizing effects on our communities. I believe that these unintended results are contrary to HUD's stated mission of "creating strong, sustainable, inclusive communities and quality affordable housing for all". The time has come for Congress to realize the shortcomings of Section 8 and to reform the program.

If you wish to join me in co-sponsoring this important legislation, please contact Sean Brennan in my office at 787-4437 or sbrennan@pahouse.net.