

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 579

To provide for a comfortable and safe temperature level in dwelling units receiving certain Federal housing assistance, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 1, 2023

Mr. RUBIO introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

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## A BILL

To provide for a comfortable and safe temperature level in dwelling units receiving certain Federal housing assistance, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Safe Temperature Act  
5 of 2023”.

6 **SEC. 2. COMFORTABLE AND SAFE TEMPERATURE LEVEL IN**  
7 **FEDERALLY ASSISTED HOUSING.**

8 (a) PUBLIC HOUSING AND PROJECT-BASED ASSIST-  
9 ANCE.—The United States Housing Act of 1937 (42  
10 U.S.C. 1437 et seq.) is amended—

1           (1)    in    section   8(o)(13)   (42    U.S.C.  
2    1437f(o)(13)), by adding at the end the following:

3                   “(P) MAINTAINING TEMPERATURE LEVEL  
4           IN UNITS.—The Secretary may require the  
5           owner of a dwelling unit receiving assistance  
6           under a housing assistance payment under this  
7           paragraph to ensure that the dwelling unit  
8           maintains a comfortable and safe temperature  
9           level ranging from 71 degrees to 81 degrees  
10          Fahrenheit.”; and

11          (2) in section 9 (42 U.S.C. 1437g), by adding  
12          at the end the following:

13          “(p) USE OF FUNDS TO MAINTAIN TEMPERATE  
14    LEVEL IN UNITS.—With respect to a public housing  
15    dwelling unit, the Secretary may use amounts in the Cap-  
16    ital Fund or the Operating Fund to ensure that the dwell-  
17    ing unit maintains a comfortable and safe temperature  
18    level ranging from 71 degrees to 81 degrees Fahrenheit.”.

19          (b) SUPPORTIVE HOUSING FOR THE ELDERLY.—  
20    Section 202 of the Housing Act of 1959 (12 U.S.C.  
21    1701q) is amended by striking the first and second sub-  
22    section (m) and inserting the following:

23          “(m) MAINTAINING TEMPERATURE IN UNITS.—The  
24    Secretary may require the owner of housing assisted under  
25    this section to ensure that each unit in that housing main-

- 1 tains a comfortable and safe temperature level ranging
- 2 from 71 degrees to 81 degrees Fahrenheit.”.

