

## Talking Points:

### S.2803 - Fostering Stable Housing Opportunities Act of 2019

Hi, my name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I am from (state). I am proud to be one of your constituents.

I would like to talk with a member of your staff about the federal Fostering Stable Housing Opportunities Act (Senate Bill 2803).

**The Fostering Stable Housing Act provides a national mechanism** to connect former foster youth with housing vouchers and supportive services. This bill was written by former foster youth themselves, for the purpose of streamlining and weaving together existing resources.

**The House version of this bill** has already passed by voice vote (HR 4300). Our hope is that the United States Senate will follow their example.

**The goal is not to delay homelessness, but to prevent it altogether.** Our vulnerable population wants to create a platform for economic independence. This bill has been crafted to equip foster youth for future success, resulting in stable employment, improved educational prospects and self-sufficiency.

1. **It synchronizes housing vouchers with the predictable nature of emancipation** (*the date a young person leaves state custody*).
2. **It pairs three-year FUP vouchers** with former foster youth between ages 18-24 years old who are at risk of homelessness.
3. **It rewards progress toward economic independence** by extending those vouchers by two years (for a total of five years) if the holder of the voucher is pursuing education, employment, job training, or has a disability.

**Foster youths transitioning to adulthood** sometimes need a helping hand at a critical point in their lives. Whether they get that helping hand may well determine whether they can become healthy citizens who are able to lead meaningful and productive lives.

**This bipartisan bill is co-sponsored** by Senator Sherrod Brown (D-OH) and Senator Chuck Grassley (R-IA). They and others recognize that housing is the foundation for opportunity, from which young people can move forward to pursue employment, higher education and building a successful future.

**Thank you so much for your time.** May I have your email address, in order to circle back and send you additional information?