

**Bill Summary & Status**  
**111th Congress (2009 - 2010)**  
**S.1619**  
**CRS Summary**

Item 3 of 4

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**S.1619**

**Title:** **Livable Communities** Act of 2009

**Sponsor:** [Sen Dodd, Christopher J.](#) [CT] (introduced 8/6/2009)    [Cosponsors](#) (19)

**Related Bills:** [H.R.4690](#)

**Latest Major Action:** 8/3/2010 Senate committee/subcommittee actions. Status: Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. Ordered to be reported with an amendment in the nature of a substitute favorably.

**SUMMARY AS OF:**

8/6/2009--Introduced.



**Livable Communities** Act of 2009 - Establishes in the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) an Office of Sustainable Housing and **Communities** (OSHC).

Establishes in the executive branch an independent Interagency Council on Sustainable **Communities**.

Requires the OSHC Director to establish a program to make comprehensive planning grants and sustainability challenge grants to eligible entities (partnerships between a consortium of units of general local government and an eligible partner, which may be a metropolitan planning organization, a rural planning organization, a regional council, or a state).

Requires the use of a comprehensive planning grant to carry out a project to: (1) coordinate land use, housing, transportation, and infrastructure planning processes across jurisdictions and agencies; (2) identify potential regional partnerships for developing and implementing a comprehensive regional plan; (3) conduct or update housing, infrastructure, transportation, energy, and environmental assessments to determine regional needs and promote sustainable development; (4) develop or update a comprehensive regional plan or goals and strategies to implement an existing comprehensive regional plan; and (5) implement local zoning and other code changes necessary to implement a comprehensive regional plan and promote sustainable development.

Requires the use of a sustainability challenge grant to: (1) promote integrated transportation, housing, energy, and economic development activities carried out across policy and governmental jurisdictions; (2) promote sustainable and location-efficient development; and (3) implement projects identified in a comprehensive regional plan.

Directs the OSHC Director to study and report to specified congressional committees on incentives for encouraging lenders to make, and homebuyers and homeowners to participate in, energy-efficient mortgages and location-efficient mortgages.

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