

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE  
TO H.R. 7123  
OFFERED BY MS. GARCIA OF TEXAS**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

**1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Studying Barriers to  
3 Housing Act”.

**4 SEC. 2. GAO STUDY AND REPORT ON REDUCING HOME-  
5 LESSNESS THROUGH PUBLIC HOUSING AND  
6 SECTION 8 RENTAL ASSISTANCE.**

7 (a) STUDY.—The Comptroller General of the United  
8 States shall conduct a study to identify any barriers that  
9 limit the ability of a public housing agency in attempting  
10 to provide housing assistance under the Public Housing  
11 and Housing Choice Voucher programs under title I of  
12 the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437  
13 et seq.) for populations experiencing homelessness, which  
14 shall include—

15 (1) identification of any laws, regulations, and  
16 any other notices or guidance pertaining to—

17 (A) waiting lists, documentation require-  
18 ments, or tenant screening that effect the abil-

1           ity of a public housing agency to accept persons  
2           and families experiencing homelessness into the  
3           public housing or voucher program; and

4                 (B) funding formulas and performance  
5           measures that may penalize public housing  
6           agencies trying to serve persons and families  
7           experiencing homelessness;

8           (2) analyzing and determining the effect of the  
9           limitation under section 8(o)(13)(B) of the United  
10          States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C.  
11          1437f(o)(13)(B); relating to the maximum amount  
12          of housing voucher assistance that a public housing  
13          agency may use for project-based assistance) has on  
14          the ability of public housing agencies to serve per-  
15          sons and families experiencing homelessness; and

16                 (3) identification of barriers to fair housing and  
17          the coordination of Federal housing assistance and  
18          homelessness funds, including outreach and mar-  
19          keting of such funds, to affirmatively further fair  
20          housing for protected classes under the Fair Hous-  
21          ing Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3601 et seq.) that are  
22          disproportionately experiencing homelessness.

23          (b) REPORT.—Not later than the expiration of the  
24          12-month period beginning on the date of the enactment  
25          of this Act, the Comptroller General shall submit a report

1 to the Congress describing the study conducted pursuant  
2 to subsection (a) and setting forth the results and conclu-  
3 sions of the study.

