

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5173

To require the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to carry out a grant program to provide assistance for the acquisition, construction, retrofitting, or renovation of residences that are visitable for individuals.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 6, 2016

Mr. TAKAI introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Financial Services

A BILL

To require the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to carry out a grant program to provide assistance for the acquisition, construction, retrofitting, or renovation of residences that are visitable for individuals.

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 “Homeowners Access
5 to Visitability Enhancements (HAVE) Act of 2016”.

6 **SEC. 2. VISITABLE HOMES GRANTS.**

7 (a) **AUTHORITY.**—Not later than 180 days after the
8 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Hous-

1 ing and Urban Development may make grants to low-in-
2 come families to provide assistance with obtaining resi-
3 dences that are visitable for individuals.

4 (b) ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES.—Amounts from a grant
5 made under this section may be used only for the following
6 activities:

7 (1) Acquiring a visitable residence that has
8 never previously been occupied.

9 (2) Constructing a visitable residence.

10 (3) Retrofitting an existing residence to make
11 such residence visitable.

12 (4) Renovating an existing residence to make
13 such residence visitable.

14 (c) LIMITATIONS.—

15 (1) AMOUNT.—A grant under this section may
16 not exceed \$5,000.

17 (2) RENEWAL.—Not more than one grant may
18 be made under this section with respect to any sin-
19 gle residence.

20 (3) PRIMARY RESIDENCE.—A grant under this
21 section may be used only for a residence that serves
22 as the primary residence of the grantee, and the
23 Secretary shall require a grantee to provide such as-
24 surances as may be necessary to ensure compliance
25 with this paragraph.

1 (4) RECAPTURE OF UNUSED AMOUNTS.—If a
2 grantee fails to use any amount of the grant award-
3 ed under this section before the expiration of the 1-
4 year period beginning on the first disbursement of
5 any such amounts to the grantee, the Secretary
6 shall—

7 (A) recapture the unused amounts; and

8 (B) make such amounts available for
9 grants under this section.

10 (d) APPLICATIONS.—To be eligible for a grant under
11 this section, a low-income family shall submit an applica-
12 tion to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and
13 containing such information as the Secretary may require,
14 including—

15 (1) a description of the manner in which grant
16 funds will be used to accomplish an eligible activity
17 under subsection (b); and

18 (2) an explanation of how such use will cause
19 the residence of such family to meet the visitability
20 standards identified in subsection (f)(4).

21 (e) REPORTING.—

22 (1) SECRETARY.—The Secretary shall submit
23 to Congress a biennial report regarding the progress
24 and effectiveness of the grant program.

1 (2) GRANTEES.—The Secretary shall require
2 each grantee to submit such information as the Sec-
3 retary considers necessary to ensure compliance with
4 this Act and to enable the Secretary to comply with
5 the requirement under paragraph (1).

6 (f) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section:

7 (1) LOW-INCOME FAMILY.—The term “low in-
8 come family” has the meaning given such term in
9 section 3(b)(2) of the United States Housing Act of
10 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437a(b)(2)).

11 (2) RESIDENCE.—The term “residence” means
12 any dwelling unit, including a dwelling unit that is
13 a single-family residence or a dwelling unit in a mul-
14 tiple-family residence, that—

15 (A) is owned by the grantee or a member
16 of the grantee’s household; or

17 (B) will be owned by the grantee, or a
18 member of the grantee’s household, during the
19 residency of the grantee in accordance with sub-
20 section (c)(3).

21 Such term includes a dwelling unit in a condo-
22 minium or cooperative development owned by the
23 grantee or a member of the grantee’s household.

24 Such term does not include any dwelling unit that
25 is subject to a lease.

1 (3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
2 the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

3 (4) VISITABLE.—The term “visitable” means,
4 with respect to a residence, that the residence com-
5 plies with the most current version of the visitability
6 standards set forth in Standard A117.1–2009 of the
7 International Code Council/American National
8 Standards Institute, entitled “Accessible and Usable
9 Buildings and Facilities” (or any successor stand-
10 ard).

11 (g) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 180 days after
12 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall
13 issue any regulations necessary to carry out this section.

14 (h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

15 (1) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be
16 appropriated to carry out this Act \$50,000,000 for
17 each of fiscal years 2017 to 2022.

18 (2) ALLOCATION.—Of the amounts appro-
19 priated pursuant to paragraph (1) for each fiscal
20 year—

21 (A) 50 percent shall be used for grants for
22 the eligible activities under paragraphs (1) and
23 (2) of subsection (b); and

1 (B) 50 percent shall be used for grants for
2 the eligible activities under paragraphs (3) and
3 (4) of subsection (b).

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