

103^D CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1380

To amend the United States Housing Act of 1937 to require the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to administer a program of construction and revitalization of public housing, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 17, 1993

Mr. CONYERS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Finance and Urban Affairs

A BILL

To amend the United States Housing Act of 1937 to require the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to administer a program of construction and revitalization of public housing, 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 “Jesse Gray Housing
5 Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.**

7 (a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds that—

1 (1) the number of rental dwelling units avail-
2 able for lower income families is insufficient, and the
3 physical condition of a substantial portion of such
4 dwelling units is inadequate;

5 (2) new construction of rental dwelling units is
6 occurring primarily in higher income areas;

7 (3) Federal housing assistance programs, such
8 as rent subsidies, vouchers, and other rental and
9 mortgage assistance, too frequently assist middle
10 and higher income families and do not meet the de-
11 mand for housing by lower income families;

12 (4) such Federal housing assistance programs
13 are not cost effective, due to a lack of suitable rental
14 dwelling units available for lower income families;
15 and

16 (5) a significant number of families are paying
17 more than 25 percent of their monthly income for
18 rent.

19 (b) PURPOSE.—It is the purpose of this Act—

20 (1) to ensure that all families in the United
21 States have access to rental dwelling units at rents
22 that are not more than 25 percent of their monthly
23 income, and that such rental dwelling units are de-
24 cent, safe, and sanitary;

1 (2) to ensure that all funds for housing assist-
2 ance by the Federal Government benefit lower in-
3 come families by requiring the Secretary of Housing
4 and Urban Development to propose that Federal
5 housing assistance be limited to lower income fami-
6 lies;

7 (3) to encourage the establishment of a public
8 housing system that consists of—

9 (A) projects located throughout metropoli-
10 tan and rural areas;

11 (B) low-density projects, to the extent
12 practicable; and

13 (C) dwelling units that are visually indis-
14 tinguishable from comparable privately owned
15 dwelling units;

16 (4) to provide for the revitalization of the hous-
17 ing construction industry and related industries; and

18 (5) to remedy the discriminatory practices of
19 construction unions by providing for the establish-
20 ment of special procedures for employing individuals
21 to construct and revitalize public housing.

22 **SEC. 3. CONSTRUCTION OF PUBLIC HOUSING.**

23 Section 5 of the United States Housing Act of 1937
24 is amended by adding at the end the following new sub-
25 section:

1 “(m)(1) The Secretary shall carry out a program for
2 the construction of 500,000 new dwelling units in public
3 housing during each of the fiscal years 1994 through
4 2003.

5 “(2) There are authorized to be appropriated to carry
6 out this subsection such sums as may be necessary for
7 each of the fiscal years 1994 through 2003. Any amount
8 appropriated under this paragraph shall remain available
9 until expended.”.

10 **SEC. 4. REVITALIZATION OF PUBLIC HOUSING.**

11 Section 14(b) of the United States Housing Act of
12 1937 is amended by adding at the end the following new
13 paragraph:

14 “(3)(A) To the extent approved in appropriation Acts
15 and subject to subparagraph (B), the Secretary shall make
16 available and contract to make available financial assist-
17 ance under this subsection, in addition to the financial as-
18 sistance made available under paragraphs (1) and (2). In
19 making assistance available under this paragraph, the Sec-
20 retary shall give particular preference to public housing
21 agencies requesting such assistance for public housing
22 projects that the Secretary determines would likely have
23 been subject to demolition or disposition under section 18,
24 as such section was in effect before the date of the enact-
25 ment of the Jesse Gray Housing Act.

1 “EMPLOYMENT IN PUBLIC HOUSING
2 CONSTRUCTION AND REVITALIZATION

3 “SEC. 22. (a) IN GENERAL.—In connection with any
4 construction and revitalization of public housing under
5 sections 5 and 14, each public housing agency shall carry
6 out a program of job training and employment of individ-
7 uals residing in the area with respect to which such public
8 housing agency has authority. Each such program shall
9 give preference to such individuals who reside in public
10 housing.

11 “(b) PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.—

12 “(1) Each training and employment program
13 required in subsection (a) shall provide that 50 per-
14 cent of the individuals employed in connection with
15 the construction of any public housing project shall
16 be individuals described in such subsection. Of the
17 individuals employed under this paragraph, 60 per-
18 cent shall be trained and employed in skilled and
19 semi-skilled positions.

20 “(2) Each training and employment program
21 required in subsection (a) shall provide that 35 per-
22 cent of the individuals employed in connection with
23 the revitalization of any public housing project shall
24 be individuals described in such subsection. Of the
25 individuals employed under this paragraph, 70 per-

1 cent shall be trained and employed in skilled and
2 semi-skilled positions.

3 “(c) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall issue such
4 regulations as may be necessary to carry out the provi-
5 sions of this section.”.

6 **SEC. 7. TENANT RENT CONTRIBUTIONS.**

7 (a) RENTAL AND COOPERATIVE HOUSING FOR
8 LOWER INCOME FAMILIES.—Section 236(f) of the Na-
9 tional Housing Act is amended—

10 (1) by striking “30” each place it appears and
11 inserting “25”; and

12 (2) in paragraph (1)(ii), by striking “25” and
13 inserting “20”.

14 (b) LOWER INCOME HOUSING UNDER THE UNITED
15 STATES HOUSING ACT OF 1937.—

16 (1) Section 3(a)(1)(A) of the United States
17 Housing Act of 1937 is amended by striking “30”
18 and inserting “25”.

19 (2) Section 8(o)(2) of the United States Hous-
20 ing Act of 1937 is amended by striking “30” and in-
21 sserting “25”.

22 (c) RURAL HOUSING FOR LOWER INCOME FAMI-
23 LIES.—

1 (1) Section 521(a)(2)(A) of the Housing Act of
2 1949 is amended by striking “30” and inserting
3 “25”.

4 (2) Section 521(a)(3) of the Housing Act of
5 1949 is amended by striking “30” each place it ap-
6 pears and inserting “25”.

7 (3) Section 530 of the Housing Act of 1949 is
8 amended by striking “30” and inserting “25”.

9 (d) RENT SUPPLEMENTS.—Section 101(d) of the
10 Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965 is amended
11 by striking “30” and inserting “25”.

12 (e) TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS.—Section 206(d)(6)
13 of the Housing and Urban-Rural Recovery Act of 1983
14 is amended by striking “30” and inserting “25”.

15 (f) EXCLUSION OF CERTAIN INCOME.—For purposes
16 of determining the monthly contribution to be made by
17 a family under the provisions amended by this section, the
18 adjusted income of a family shall exclude any income at-
19 tributable to any cost-of-living adjustment made after the
20 effective date of this section in—

21 (1) any welfare assistance received by such fam-
22 ily from a public agency; or

23 (2) any benefits received by such family under
24 the Social Security Act.

1 (g) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The provisions of, and
2 amendments made by, this section shall take effect on Oc-
3 tober 1, 1993.

4 **SEC. 8. REPORT REGARDING FEDERAL HOUSING ASSIST-**
5 **ANCE.**

6 The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development,
7 following consultation with public housing agencies, shall
8 prepare and submit to the Congress a comprehensive re-
9 port setting forth a proposal to limit Federal housing as-
10 sistance to assistance for public housing in order to ensure
11 that all funds for housing assistance provided by the Fed-
12 eral Government benefit lower income families.

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