

109<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 5512

To direct the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to establish an urban blight demolition program to provide grants for the demolition of condemned and tax-foreclosed residential housing.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 25, 2006

Mr. RYAN of Ohio (for himself and Mr. KILDEE) introduced the following bill;  
which was referred to the Committee on Financial Services

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## A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to establish an urban blight demolition program to provide grants for the demolition of condemned and tax-foreclosed residential housing.

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 “Urban Development  
5       Act of 2006”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDING.**

2 Congress finds that there has been a decrease in the  
3 population of traditional manufacturing regions, often  
4 leaving a surplus of residential housing.

5 **SEC. 3. URBAN BLIGHT DEMOLITION PROGRAM.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Housing and  
7 Urban Development shall establish and carry out an urban  
8 blight demolition program in accordance with the require-  
9 ments of this section.

10 (b) GRANTS.—

11 (1) IN GENERAL.—Under the program, the Sec-  
12 retary may award grants to eligible recipients for the  
13 purpose of demolishing condemned or tax-foreclosed  
14 residential housing in urban areas.

15 (2) ADDITIONAL USE OF FUNDS.—In addition  
16 to the purpose specified in paragraph (1), amounts  
17 from grants awarded under this section may be used  
18 for one or more of the following purposes:

19 (A) Remediation of the demolition sites  
20 prior to demolition.

21 (B) Rehabilitation of the demolition sites  
22 to public use spaces.

23 (c) GRANT ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible for a grant  
24 under the program, an applicant—

25 (1) shall be a city or other municipality—

1 (A) with a population of more than  
2 40,000, as determined by the most recent re-  
3 port issued by the Bureau of the Census; and

4 (B) that has experienced a decrease of 10  
5 percent in residential population over the course  
6 of the last 2 reports issued by the Bureau of  
7 the Census.

8 (2) shall demonstrate that the demolition to be  
9 carried out with funds from the grant will aid the  
10 health, safety, and welfare of the residents of the  
11 city or municipality; and

12 (3) shall demonstrate that such demolition is  
13 needed, in part, to reduce crime, destroy a public  
14 hazard, or create a public-use space such as a trail  
15 or park.

16 (d) APPLICATION.—A city or other municipality seek-  
17 ing a grant under this section shall submit an application  
18 to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and con-  
19 taining such information as the Secretary may require.

20 (e) MATCHING FUNDS.—The Federal share of the  
21 cost of an activity carried out using a grant awarded  
22 under this section may not exceed 50 percent.

23 (f) GRANT AMOUNTS.—The Secretary may not award  
24 more than \$500,000 in grants under this section to an  
25 eligible recipient in a fiscal year.

1 (g) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER GRANT PROGRAMS.—  
2 Grants awarded under this section are intended to com-  
3 plement, and not take the place of, funding provided under  
4 the Community Development Block Grant program au-  
5 thorized by the Housing and Community Development Act  
6 of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.).

7 (h) COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION AND INPUT.—To  
8 the extent practicable, recipients of grants awarded under  
9 this section shall consult with community leaders, resident  
10 and citizen associations, law enforcement officials, and fire  
11 departments in determining which residential housing will  
12 be demolished.

13 (i) REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary shall  
14 submit to Congress on an annual basis a report containing  
15 the following:

16 (1) The number of demolitions that have been  
17 carried out under the program in the preceding year.

18 (2) The number of demolished properties that  
19 have been rehabilitated to public-use spaces under  
20 the program in the preceding year.

21 (3) A description of the impact such  
22 demolitions and rehabilitations have had on the  
23 health, safety, and welfare of the residents in the af-  
24 fected areas.

1           (j) NONDISCRIMINATION, LABOR STANDARDS, AND  
2 REMEDIES FOR NONCOMPLIANCE.—Grants awarded  
3 under this section shall be subject to the terms and condi-  
4 tions set forth in sections 109, 110, and 111 of the Hous-  
5 ing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C.  
6 5309, 5310, and 5311).

7 **SEC. 4. RESIDENTIAL HOUSING DEFINED.**

8           The term “residential housing” includes single family  
9 and multi-family units that were primarily used as dwell-  
10 ing accommodations.

11 **SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

12           There are authorized to be appropriated such sums  
13 as may be necessary to carry out this Act.

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