107TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION H.R. 2398

To establish a grant program to provide assistance to States for modernizing and enhancing voting procedures and administration, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 28, 2001

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri (for herself and Mr. DREIER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on House Administration

A BILL

- To establish a grant program to provide assistance to States for modernizing and enhancing voting procedures and administration, 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 "State Voting Proce-

5 dures and Administration Modernization Act of 2001".

6 SEC. 2. GRANTS TO STATES FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO VOT-

7 ING PROCEDURES AND ELECTION ADMINIS-8 TRATION.

9 (a) ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.—There is estab-10 lished a program under which the Office of Election Ad-

1 ministration of the Federal Election Commission (here2 after in this Act referred to as the "Office") shall make
3 grants to eligible States during the first 5 fiscal years
4 which begin after the date of the enactment of this Act
5 for carrying out any of the activities described in sub6 section (b).

7 (b) ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT WITH GRANT
8 FUNDS.—The activities described in this subsection are
9 as follows:

10 (1) Improving election technologies, systems,11 and designs.

12 (2) Facilitating voter registration and improv13 ing the verification and maintenance of the rolls of
14 eligible and registered voters.

15 (3) Improving the accuracy and security of elec-16 tion procedures and vote counts.

17 (4) Promoting greater understanding among
18 the public of the system of government and election
19 procedures.

20 (5) Providing greater access to voter registra21 tion sites and polling places for individuals with dis22 abilities, individuals residing in rural areas, and oth23 ers.

24 (6) Providing training and related education for25 poll workers and other election personnel.

1	(c) Amount of Grant.—
2	(1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection to paragraph (2)
3	and subsection $(e)(1)$, the amount of a grant made
4	to a State under the program under this Act for a
5	fiscal year shall be equal to the product of—
6	(A) the total amount of funds appropriated
7	for grants under the program for the fiscal
8	year; and
9	(B) the allotment percentage for the State
10	(as defined in paragraph (2)) or $\frac{1}{2}$ of 1 per-
11	cent, whichever is greater.
12	(2) Allotment percentage defined.—In
13	paragraph $(1)(B)$, the "allotment percentage" for a
14	State is an amount (expressed as a percentage)
15	equal to the quotient of—
16	(A) the population of the State, and
17	(B) the total population of all States re-
18	ceiving grants under the program under this
19	Act for the year.
20	(d) ELIGIBILITY OF STATES.—A State is eligible to
21	receive a grant under the program under this Act for a
22	fiscal year if it submits to the Office (at such time prior
23	to the beginning of the fiscal year as the Office may re-
24	quire) an application containing such information and as-
25	surances as the Office may require, including assurances

that the State will give priority in distributing funds under
 the grant to those jurisdictions with the greatest need to
 improve voting systems and procedures.

4 (e) OTHER REQUIREMENTS FOR STATES RECEIVING
5 GRANTS.—

6 (1) MATCHING.—The amount of a grant pro7 vided to a State under the program under this Act
8 may not exceed 75 percent of the total cost of car9 rying out the activities funded with the grant.

10 (2) REPORTS.—Not later than 6 months after 11 the end of any fiscal year for which a State received 12 a grant under the program under this Act, the State 13 shall submit a report to the Office describing the ac-14 tivities carried out during the year with the funds 15 provided under the grant, and shall make such re-16 port available to any person who requests it.

17 (3) AUDIT.—Each State receiving a grant
18 under the program under this Act for a fiscal year
19 shall arrange for an independent auditor to conduct
20 an audit of the activities carried out with the funds
21 provided under the grant.

(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act
\$500,000,000 for each of the first 5 fiscal years which
begin after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(g) TERMINATION OF PROGRAM.—No grants may be
 made under the program under this Act after the expira tion of the 5th fiscal year which begins after the date of
 the enactment of this Act.

5 SEC. 3. STATE DEFINED.

6 In this Act, the term "State" means each of the sev-7 eral States and the District of Columbia.

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