

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 23

To amend the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 to authorize communities to use community development block grant funds for construction of tornado-safe shelters in manufactured home parks.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 7, 2003

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

A BILL

To amend the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 to authorize communities to use community development block grant funds for construction of tornado-safe shelters in manufactured home parks.

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 “Tornado Shelters Act”.

5 **SEC. 2. CDBG ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES.**

6 Section 105(a) of the Housing and Community De-
7 velopment Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5305(a)) is amended—

1 (1) in paragraph (22), by striking “and” at the
2 end;

3 (2) in paragraph (23), by striking the period at
4 the end and inserting a semicolon;

5 (3) by inserting after paragraph (23) the fol-
6 lowing new paragraph:

7 “(24) the construction or improvement of tor-
8 nado-safe shelters located in manufactured housing
9 parks, and the provision of assistance (including
10 loans and grants) to nonprofit or for-profit entities
11 (including owners of such parks) for such construc-
12 tion or improvement, except that—

13 “(A) a shelter assisted with amounts pro-
14 vided pursuant to this paragraph may be lo-
15 cated only in a manufactured housing park
16 that—

17 “(i) has not less than 20 manufac-
18 tured housing units; and

19 “(ii) is located in a State within which
20 a tornado has occurred during the fiscal
21 year for which the amounts to be used
22 under this paragraph were made available
23 or any of the 3 preceding fiscal years, as
24 determined by the Secretary after con-

1 sultation with the Director of the Federal
2 Emergency Management Agency;

3 “(B) such a shelter shall comply with
4 standards for construction and safety as the
5 Secretary, after consultation with the Director
6 of the Federal Emergency Management Agency,
7 shall provide to ensure protection from torna-
8 does;

9 “(C) such a shelter shall be of a size suffi-
10 cient to accommodate all occupants of the man-
11 ufactured housing park at a single time; and

12 “(D) amounts may not be used for a shel-
13 ter as provided under this paragraph unless
14 there is located, within 1000 feet of the manu-
15 factured housing park in which the shelter is lo-
16 cated, a warning siren that is operated in ac-
17 cordance with such local, regional, or national
18 disaster warning programs or systems as the
19 Secretary, after consultation with the Director
20 of the Federal Emergency Management Agency,
21 considers appropriate to ensure adequate notice
22 of occupants of the park of a tornado; and”.

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