

109TH CONGRESS
2^D 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.

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

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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