

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6714

To provide assistance to pay off rental arrearages of low- and moderate-income households accruing during the public health emergency relating to coronavirus, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 5, 2020

Mr. ESPAILLAT (for himself and Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Financial Services

A BILL

To provide assistance to pay off rental arrearages of low- and moderate-income households accruing during the public health emergency relating to coronavirus, 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 “Subsidizing Tenant
5 Arrears Yet Helping Owners with Mortgages Emergency
6 Act of 2020” or the “STAY HOME Act of 2020”.

1 SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

2 In addition to any other amounts made available for
3 fiscal year 2020 for grants under the Emergency Solutions
4 Grants program under subtitle B of title IV of the McKin-
5 ney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11371 et
6 seq.), there is authorized to be appropriated
7 \$25,000,000,000 for grants under such subtitle made in
8 accordance with this Act to respond to needs arising from
9 the public health emergency relating to Coronavirus Dis-
10 ease 2019 (COVID-19).

11 SEC. 3. ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES.

12 (a) PAYMENTS FOR RENTAL ARREARAGES.—
13 Amounts made available pursuant to section 2 of this Act
14 may be used only to provide payments, to avoid eviction,
15 on behalf of eligible households under subsection (b), di-
16 rectly to the owners of dwelling units occupied by such
17 households, in the amount necessary to pay all or a por-
18 tion of any amount of rent for such dwelling unit past
19 due at the time of such payment and attributable to occu-
20 pancy at any time during the emergency declared on
21 March 13, 2020, by the President under the Robert T.
22 Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act
23 (42 U.S.C. 4121 et seq.) relating to the Coronavirus Dis-
24 ease 2019 (COVID–19) pandemic.

25 (b) ELIGIBLE HOUSEHOLDS.—An eligible household
26 under this section shall be a household that—

1 (1) has an income that does not exceed 120
2 percent of the median income for the area in which
3 the family resides; and

4 (2) resides in a dwelling unit located in any
5 area that, at any time during the emergency speci-
6 fied in subsection (a), is or was subject to an order
7 made by any State or local government official or
8 agency requiring residents to stay at home, to stay
9 at home except to the extent necessary, or to stay
10 at home except to the extent necessary to conduct
11 essential activities.

12 (c) TREATMENT OF CREDIT SCORES.—An owner or
13 other lessor of a dwelling unit for which a payment of rent
14 is made pursuant to this Act shall not report such pay-
15 ment or assistance to a consumer reporting agency and
16 the provision of such assistance on behalf of an eligible
17 household shall not adversely affect the credit score of any
18 member of such household.

19 (d) PROHIBITION.—No grantee of amounts under
20 this Act nor any State nor local government may require
21 any eligible household to prove or demonstrate an ability
22 to pay future rent amounts due or to prove or demonstrate
23 employment, as a condition of assistance under this Act
24 on behalf of such household.

1 (e) TREATMENT.—In applying subtitle B of title IV
2 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42
3 U.S.C. 11371 et seq.) with respect to amounts made avail-
4 able pursuant to section 2 of this Act, any reference to
5 activities under section 415(a) of the McKinney-Vento
6 Homeless Assistance Act shall be considered to include the
7 activity under subsection (a) of this section.

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