

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2965

To require the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to establish a grant program to provide amounts to eligible entities for costs associated with the establishment and operation of a safe parking program, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 4, 2021

Mr. CARBAJAL (for himself and Mr. LAMALFA) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Financial Services

A BILL

To require the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to establish a grant program to provide amounts to eligible entities for costs associated with the establishment and operation of a safe parking program, 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 “Naomi Schwartz Safe
5 Parking Program Act of 2021”.

1 **SEC. 2. SAFE PARKING PROGRAM GRANTS.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the
3 date of the enactment of this section, the Secretary of
4 Housing and Urban Development shall establish a grant
5 program to provide amounts to eligible entities for costs
6 associated with the establishment and operation of new or
7 existing safe parking program.

8 (b) GRANT TERM.—If the Secretary awards a grant
9 to an eligible entity under subsection (a), such grant shall
10 be for a term of 5 years.

11 (c) AMOUNT.—

12 (1) IN GENERAL.—An eligible entity awarded a
13 grant under this section shall receive an equal
14 amount of money in each of the 5 years of the term
15 of the grant.

16 (2) CAP.—No eligible entity may receive an
17 amount under this section that exceeds \$5,000,000.

18 (d) APPLICATIONS.—

19 (1) IN GENERAL.—To be eligible to receive a
20 grant under subsection (a), an eligible entity shall
21 submit an application to the Secretary at such time,
22 in such manner, and containing such information as
23 the Secretary may require, including a description of
24 how any amounts awarded to the eligible entity will
25 be used.

1 (2) MULTIPLE LOCATIONS.—An eligible entity
2 may, in such application, propose to establish or
3 continue operating safe parking program as multiple
4 locations.

5 (3) PRIORITY.—The Secretary shall give pri-
6 ority to applications from eligible entities that serve
7 homeless persons in underserved areas, as such term
8 is defined in section 81.2 of title 24, Code of Federal
9 Regulations.

10 (e) USE OF FUNDS.—Except as provided by sub-
11 section (f), any eligible entity that is awarded an amount
12 under this section shall use such amount for costs associ-
13 ated with—

14 (1) establishing and operating a safe parking
15 program;

16 (2) providing permanent rehousing assistance to
17 families using the safe parking program;

18 (3) employing staff who maintain the safety
19 and health of participants and monitor program or
20 shelter compliance;

21 (4) establishing and maintaining the operation
22 of hygiene facilities and restrooms for homeless per-
23 sons;

24 (5) maintaining the vehicles of homeless per-
25 sons using a safe parking program and providing

1 gas for such persons to use their vehicles to drive to
2 places that will help them obtain or maintain hous-
3 ing, including to work, to schools, to medical ap-
4 pointments, and to search for home; or

5 (6) entering data and information into the De-
6 partment of Housing and Urban Development's
7 Homeless Management Information System.

8 (f) ALTERNATIVE USE OF FUNDS.—If a eligible enti-
9 ty determines that a safe parking program is no longer
10 necessary, such eligible entity may, after approval from
11 the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development use any
12 amounts provided under this section for activities that are
13 eligible for the use of emergency solutions grant program
14 amounts under section 415 of the McKinney-Vento Home-
15 less Assistance Act.

16 (g) REHOUSING AND CASE MANAGEMENT SERV-
17 ICES.—Any homeless person who makes use of a safe
18 parking program established or operated using amounts
19 awarded under this section is not required to accept case
20 management or rehousing services offered as part of such
21 program.

22 (h) DEFINITIONS.—

23 (1) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term “eligible enti-
24 ty” means—

1 (A) a unit of general purpose local govern-
2 ment;

3 (B) an Indian tribe or its tribally des-
4 igned housing entity as such terms are de-
5 fined in section 4 of the Native American Hous-
6 ing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of
7 1996;

8 (C) a non-profit organization that provides
9 services to homeless persons; or

10 (D) a collaborative applicant or other orga-
11 nization or entity funded under the Continuum
12 of Care program under subtitle C of title IV of
13 the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act
14 (42 U.S.C. 11381 et seq.).

15 (2) ESSENTIAL SERVICE.—The term “essential
16 service” as the meaning given the term in section
17 567.102 of title 24, Code of Federal Regulations.

18 (3) HOMELESS PERSON.—The term “homeless
19 person” has the meaning given the term in section
20 103 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance
21 Act.

22 (4) SAFE PARKING PROGRAM.—The term “safe
23 parking program” means a program that—

24 (A) provides homeless persons living in ve-
25 hicles, including motor homes, with a safe place

1 to park their vehicles overnight to facilitate a
2 transition to more stable housing; and

3 (B) provides re-housing services and essen-
4 tial services.

5 (5) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
6 the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

7 (6) STATE.—The term “State” means each of
8 the several States, the District of Columbia, the
9 Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands,
10 Guam, American Samoa, the Northern Mariana Is-
11 lands, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, and
12 any other territory or possession of the United
13 States.

14 (i) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—The Secretary shall, not
15 later than 180 days after the end of the second fiscal year
16 and after the end of the fifth fiscal year following the date
17 of the enactment of this section, submit to the Congress
18 a report on the impact of grants awarded under this sec-
19 tion, including, to the extent determinable, any data
20 about—

21 (1) the number of homeless persons living in ve-
22 hicles in the geographic region in which the eligible
23 entity operates in each of the 7 previous years;

1 (2) the demographics and number of homeless
2 persons who choose to participate in a safe parking
3 program; and

4 (3) the number of homeless persons who choose
5 to participate in a safe parking program who exit
6 into permanent housing.

7 (j) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
8 authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act
9 \$25,000,000 for each of the first 5 fiscal years beginning
10 after the date of the enactment of this section.

11 (k) TERMINATION OF GRANT PROGRAM.—The Sec-
12 retary may not award any grant under this section after
13 the date that is final day of the fifth fiscal year beginning
14 afer the date of the enactment of this section.

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