

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1680

To authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to make grants to promote professional retrofit installation of fire alarm detection systems and other fire detection and prevention technologies in nursing homes, hospice facilities, and other appropriate facilities.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 24, 2009

Mr. ARCURI introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to make grants to promote professional retrofit installation of fire alarm detection systems and other fire detection and prevention technologies in nursing homes, hospice facilities, and other appropriate facilities.

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 “Long-Term Care Life
5 Safety Act of 2009”.

1 **SEC. 2. RETROFIT ASSISTANCE GRANTS FOR FIRE SAFETY**
2 **AND PREVENTION.**

3 (a) **AUTHORITY.**—Not later than 120 days after the
4 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health
5 and Human Services shall establish a program to award
6 grants to nursing homes, hospice facilities, assisted living
7 facilities, residential care program facilities, board and
8 care facilities (as defined in section 1903(q)(4)(B) of the
9 Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396b(q)(4)(B))), and any
10 other facilities that are licensed or certified by the State
11 and are determined by the Secretary to be appropriate for
12 a grant under this section, for the purpose of retrofitting
13 such homes and facilities with any professionally installed
14 fire alarm detection system or other fire detection and pre-
15 vention technology, as defined in subsection (c)(1).

16 (b) **PRIORITY.**—In awarding grants under this sec-
17 tion, the Secretary shall give priority to applicants that
18 demonstrate a need or hardship. In determining hardship,
19 the Secretary may take into account factors such as the
20 age and condition of the facilities of the applicant, the
21 need for facility beds in the community involved, and re-
22 quirements imposed on the applicant to meet fire safety
23 regulations applicable under Medicare, Medicaid, other
24 Federal programs, or State or local licensing or building
25 code standards.

26 (c) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this Act:

1 (1) The term “fire alarm detection system or
2 other fire detection and prevention technology”
3 means a system, a portion of a system, or a com-
4 bination of systems and components for fire protec-
5 tion, such as integrated systems of manual devices
6 and automatic sensors that, when activated, cause
7 the systems to warn building occupants and emer-
8 gency forces; smoke detectors; automatic fire sprin-
9 kler systems; specialized suppression systems and
10 other active fire protection systems or components
11 installed in accordance with codes and standards
12 such as those developed by the National Fire Protec-
13 tion Association in the 2006 Life Safety Code.

14 (2) The term “Secretary” means the Secretary
15 of Health and Human Services.

16 (d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
17 authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
18 \$40,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2010 through 2014.

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