

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 5137

To reauthorize and expand the pilot program to help individuals in recovery from a substance use disorder become stably housed, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 4, 2023

Ms. BONAMICI (for herself and Mr. FITZPATRICK) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Financial Services

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## A BILL

To reauthorize and expand the pilot program to help individuals in recovery from a substance use disorder become stably housed, 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 “Supporting Transition  
5 And Recovery Through Housing Act of 2023” or the  
6 “START Housing Act of 2023”.

7 **SEC. 2. REAUTHORIZATION OF RECOVERY HOUSING PRO-**  
8 **GRAM.**

9 Section 8071 of the SUPPORT for Patients and  
10 Communities Act (42 U.S.C. 5301 note) is amended—

1 (1) in subsection (a)—

2 (A) by striking “2019 through 2023” and  
3 inserting “2024 through 2029”;

4 (B) by striking “for a period of not more  
5 than 2 years or”; and

6 (C) by striking “, whichever is earlier”;

7 (2) in subsection (b)—

8 (A) in paragraph (1), by inserting “, act-  
9 ing through the Office of Community Planning  
10 and Development in consultation with the Of-  
11 fice of Special Needs Assistance,” before “not  
12 later than”; and

13 (B) in paragraph (2)—

14 (i) in subparagraph (A), by striking  
15 “allocated to” and inserting “prioritized  
16 for”; and

17 (ii) by striking subparagraph (B) and  
18 inserting the following new subparagraph:

19 “(B) PRIORITY.—Among the States, pri-  
20 ority shall be given to States with the greatest  
21 need, as such need is determined by the Sec-  
22 retary based on the following factors:

23 “(i) The highest average rates of un-  
24 employment based on data provided by the

1 Bureau of Labor Statistics for calendar  
2 years 2019 through 2023.

3 “(ii) The lowest average labor force  
4 participation rates based on data provided  
5 by the Bureau of Labor Statistics for cal-  
6 endar years 2019 through 2023.

7 “(iii) The highest age-adjusted rates  
8 of drug overdose deaths based on data  
9 from the Centers for Disease Control and  
10 Prevention.

11 “(iv) The highest rates of unsheltered  
12 homelessness as determined by the most  
13 recent annual point-in-time count of per-  
14 sons experiencing homelessness required by  
15 the Secretary of Housing and Urban De-  
16 velopment under title IV of the McKinney-  
17 Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C.  
18 11360 et seq.).”;

19 (3) in subsection (c)—

20 (A) in paragraph (2)—

21 (i) by inserting “, low-barrier” after  
22 “effective”; and

23 (ii) by inserting before the period at  
24 the end the following: “with an expectation  
25 that persons participating in the program

1           have access to stable housing upon exiting  
2           the program”; and

3           (B) by adding at the end the following new  
4           paragraphs:

5           “(4) SUPPLEMENT NOT SUPPLANT.—As a con-  
6           dition of receiving funds under this section, a State  
7           shall use such funds received under this section only  
8           to supplement the level of State or local funds that  
9           would, in the absence of the receipt of funds under  
10          this section, be made available for related housing  
11          and recovery services.

12          “(5) CONSULTATION.—Each State that receives  
13          amounts pursuant to this section shall consult with  
14          continuums of care and public housing agencies to  
15          assess needs for implementing funds and developing  
16          a plan to support individuals receiving stable hous-  
17          ing in connection with funding under this section  
18          with transfer to other housing at the end of the indi-  
19          viduals’ eligibility.”; and

20          (4) by striking subsection (f) and inserting the  
21          following new subsection:

22          “(f) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary may  
23          use not more than 2 percent of the funds made available  
24          under this section for technical assistance, to publish best

1 practices, and to conduct outreach to grantees or poten-  
2 tially eligible participants.”.

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