

117TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 7085

To amend the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965 to authorize the Secretary of Commerce to make predevelopment grants, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 15, 2022

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana (for himself and Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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## A BILL

To amend the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965 to authorize the Secretary of Commerce to make predevelopment grants, 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. PREDEVELOPMENT.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Public Works and Economic  
5 Development Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3121 et seq.) is  
6 amended by inserting after section 207 the following:

1 **“SEC. 208. PREDEVELOPMENT.**

2       “(a) PREDEVELOPMENT GRANTS.—On the applica-  
3 tion of an eligible recipient, the Secretary may make  
4 grants or cooperative agreements for—

5               “(1) community asset mapping;

6               “(2) training;

7               “(3) technical assistance and organizational de-  
8 velopment;

9               “(4) feasibility, environmental, and market  
10 studies;

11               “(5) demonstration projects;

12               “(6) organizational capacity building;

13               “(7) organizing and facilitating convenings;

14               “(8) site preparation and infrastructure;

15               “(9) permitting, including professional services;

16       and

17               “(10) other predevelopment activities deter-  
18 mined by the Secretary to be appropriate.

19       “(b) APPLICATION ASSISTANCE.—In the case of a  
20 project under this section that provides assistance to 1 or  
21 more eligible entities with low organizational capacity, the  
22 Secretary may waive the provision in section 213 prohib-  
23 iting the use of assistance made under this title in connec-  
24 tion with obtaining grants under this title.”.

25       (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents  
26 in section 1(b) of the Public Works and Economic Devel-

1 opment Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3121 note) is amended  
2 by inserting after the item relating to section 207 the fol-  
3 lowing:

“Sec. 208. Predevelopment.”.

4 (c) GRANT RATE FOR PREDEVELOPMENT GRANTS.—  
5 Section 204(c)(3) of the Public Works and Economic De-  
6 velopment Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3144(c)(3)) is amend-  
7 ed—

8 (1) in the heading by striking “AND TECHNICAL  
9 ASSISTANCE” and inserting “, TECHNICAL ASSIST-  
10 ANCE, AND PREDEVELOPMENT”; and

11 (2) by striking “section 207” and inserting  
12 “sections 207 and 208”.

13 (d) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

14 (1) UNIVERSITY CENTER.—Section 3(12) of the  
15 Public Works and Economic Development Act of  
16 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3122(12)) is amended by striking  
17 “section 207(a)(2)(D)” and inserting “section  
18 207(c)”.

19 (2) DIRECT EXPENDITURE OR REDISTRIBUTION  
20 BY RECIPIENT.—Section 217(a) of the Public Works  
21 and Economic Development Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C.  
22 3154e(a)) is amended by striking “or 207” and in-  
23 serting “207, or 208”.

24 (3) POWERS OF SECRETARY.—Section  
25 601(a)(12) of the Public Works and Economic De-

1       velopment Act of 1965 is amended by striking “sec-  
2       tion 207” and inserting “sections 207 and 208”.

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