

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7486

To authorize additional funds for the Shelter and Services Program of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 29, 2024

Ms. CARAVEO introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Financial Services

A BILL

To authorize additional funds for the Shelter and Services Program of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, 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 “Humanitarian Emer-
5 gency Localized Partnerships for Interior Cities Act” or
6 the “HELP for Interior Cities Act”.

7 **SEC. 2. REQUIREMENTS FOR OPERATION OF SHELTER AND**
8 **SERVICES PROGRAM.**

9 (a) **PRIORITIZATION FOR HOSPITALS, CLINICS, AND**
10 **COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS.**—Of the amount appro-

1 priated or otherwise made available for payments under
2 the Shelter and Services Program under this Act, not less
3 than 20 percent shall be prioritized for hospitals, clinics,
4 and community health centers.

5 (b) **PRIORITIZATION OF INTERIOR CITIES.**—In car-
6 rying out the Program, the Director shall—

7 (1) assess the amount of funding provided to
8 interior cities as compared to border cities;

9 (2) compile a list of interior cities that have not
10 received as much funding under the Program as bor-
11 der cities with a similar size and population; and

12 (3) prioritize consideration of providing funding
13 authorized under this Act to such interior cities.

14 **SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

15 There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out
16 the Program \$1,400,000,000, to remain available until ex-
17 pended.

18 **SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.**

19 In this Act, the following definitions apply:

20 (1) **BORDER CITY.**—The term “border city”
21 means a city that lies along a border of the United
22 States.

23 (2) **DIRECTOR.**—The term “Director” means
24 the Director of the Federal Emergency Management
25 Agency.

1 (3) SHELTER AND SERVICES PROGRAM; PRO-
2 GRAM.—The term “Shelter and Services Program”
3 or “Program” means the program operated by the
4 Director to provide funds to nonfederal entities that
5 provide shelter and other eligible services to mi-
6 grants encountered by and released from the custody
7 of the Department of Homeland Security, as well as
8 funding to increase their temporary shelter capacity,
9 for which funds were transferred from the U.S. Cus-
10 toms and Border Protection to the Federal Emer-
11 gency Management Agency under the Department of
12 Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2023 (divi-
13 sion F of Public Law 117–328).

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