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(Original Signature of Member)

116TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R.

To provide federal housing assistance on behalf of youths who are aging out of foster care, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. DEAN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

# A BILL

To provide federal housing assistance on behalf of youths who are aging out of foster care, 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 “Fostering Stable Hous-  
5 ing Opportunities Act of 2019”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITION OF FAMILY.**

7 Subparagraph (A) of section 3(b)(3) of the United  
8 States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437a(b)(3)(A))  
9 is amended—

1 (1) in the first sentence—

2 (A) by striking “(v)” and inserting “(vi)”;

3 and

4 (B) by inserting after “tenant family,” the  
5 following: “(v) a youth described in section  
6 8(x)(2)(B)”;

7 (2) in the second sentence, by inserting “or  
8 (vi)” after “clause (v)”.

9 **SEC. 3. HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHERS FOR FOSTERING STA-**  
10 **BLE HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES.**

11 (a) ASSISTANCE FOR YOUTH AGING OUT OF FOSTER  
12 CARE.—Section 8(x) of the United States Housing Act of  
13 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(x)) is amended—

14 (1) in paragraph (2), by inserting “subject to  
15 paragraph (5),” before “(B)”;

16 (2) in paragraph (3)—

17 (A) by striking “(3) ALLOCATION.—The”  
18 and inserting the following:

19 “(3) ALLOCATION.—

20 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The”; and

21 (B) by adding at the end the following new  
22 subparagraph:

23 “(B) ASSISTANCE FOR YOUTH AGING OUT  
24 OF FOSTER CARE.—Notwithstanding any other  
25 provision of law, the Secretary shall, subject

1           only to the availability of funds, allocate such  
2           assistance to any public housing agencies that  
3           (i) administer assistance pursuant to paragraph  
4           (2)(B), or seek to administer such assistance,  
5           consistent with procedures established by the  
6           Secretary, and (ii) have requested such assist-  
7           ance so that they may provide timely assistance  
8           to eligible youth.”;

9           (3) by redesignating paragraph (5) as para-  
10          graph (6); and

11          (4) by inserting after paragraph (4) the fol-  
12          lowing new paragraph:

13                 “(5) REQUIREMENTS FOR ASSISTANCE FOR  
14          YOUTH AGING OUT OF FOSTER CARE.—Assistance  
15          provided under this subsection for an eligible youth  
16          pursuant to paragraph (2)(B) shall be subject to the  
17          following requirements:

18                         “(A) REQUIREMENTS TO EXTEND ASSIST-  
19          ANCE.—

20                                 “(i) PARTICIPATION IN FAMILY SELF-  
21          SUFFICIENCY.—In the case of a public  
22          housing agency that is providing such as-  
23          sistance under this subsection on behalf of  
24          an eligible youth and that is carrying out  
25          a family self-sufficiency program under

1 section 23, the agency shall, subject only  
2 to the availability of such assistance, ex-  
3 tend the provision of such assistance for  
4 up to 24 months beyond the period re-  
5 ferred to in paragraph (2)(B), but only  
6 during such period that the youth is in  
7 compliance with the terms and conditions  
8 applicable under section 23 and the regula-  
9 tions implementing such section to a per-  
10 son participating in a family self-suffi-  
11 ciency program.

12 “(ii) EDUCATION, WORKFORCE DE-  
13 VELOPMENT, OR EMPLOYMENT.—In the  
14 case of a public housing agency that is  
15 providing such assistance under this sub-  
16 section on behalf of an eligible youth and  
17 that is not carrying out a family self-suffi-  
18 ciency program under section 23, the agen-  
19 cy shall, subject only to the availability of  
20 such assistance, extend the provision of  
21 such assistance for up to 24 months be-  
22 yond the period referred to in paragraph  
23 (2)(B) on an annual basis, but only if dur-  
24 ing the entire year preceding such exten-  
25 sion the youth was—

1           “(I) engaged in obtaining a rec-  
2           ognized postsecondary credential or a  
3           secondary school diploma or its recog-  
4           nized equivalent;

5           “(II) enrolled in an institution of  
6           higher education, as such term is de-  
7           fined in section 101(a) of the Higher  
8           Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.  
9           1001(a)) and including the institu-  
10          tions described in subparagraphs (A)  
11          and (B) of section 102(a)(1) of such  
12          Act (20 U.S.C. 1002(a)(1)); or

13          “(III) participating in a career  
14          pathway, as such term is defined in  
15          section 3 of the Workforce Innovation  
16          and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.  
17          3102).

18          Notwithstanding any other provision of  
19          this clause, a public housing agency shall  
20          consider employment as satisfying the re-  
21          quirements under this subparagraph.

22          “(iii) EXCEPTIONS.—Notwithstanding  
23          clauses (i) and (ii), a public housing agen-  
24          cy that is providing such assistance under  
25          this subsection on behalf of an eligible

1 youth shall extend the provision of such as-  
2 sistance for up to 24 months beyond the  
3 period referred to in paragraph (2)(B),  
4 and clauses (i) and (ii) of this subpara-  
5 graph shall not apply, if the eligible youth  
6 is—

7 “(I) a parent or other household  
8 member responsible for the care of a  
9 dependent child under the age of 6 or  
10 for the care of an incapacitated per-  
11 son;

12 “(II) a person who is regularly  
13 and actively participating in a drug  
14 addiction or alcohol treatment and re-  
15 habilitation program; or

16 “(III) a person who is incapable  
17 of complying with the requirement  
18 under clause (i) or (ii), as applicable,  
19 due to a documented medical condi-  
20 tion.

21 “(iv) VERIFICATION OF COMPLI-  
22 ANCE.—The Secretary shall require the  
23 public housing agency to verify compliance  
24 with the requirements under this subpara-  
25 graph by each eligible youth on whose be-

1 half the agency provides such assistance  
2 under this subsection on an annual basis  
3 in conjunction with reviews of income for  
4 purposes of determining income eligibility  
5 for such assistance.

6 “(B) SUPPORTIVE SERVICES.—

7 “(i) ELIGIBILITY.—Each eligible  
8 youth on whose behalf such assistance  
9 under this subsection is provided shall be  
10 eligible for any supportive services (as such  
11 term is defined in section 103 of the Work-  
12 force Innovation and Opportunity Act (29  
13 U.S.C. 3102)) made available, in connec-  
14 tion with any housing assistance program  
15 of the agency, by or through the public  
16 housing agency providing such assistance.

17 “(ii) INFORMATION.—Upon the initial  
18 provision of such assistance under this  
19 subsection on behalf of any eligible youth,  
20 the public housing agency shall inform  
21 such eligible youth of the existence of any  
22 programs or services referred to in clause  
23 (i) and of their eligibility for such pro-  
24 grams and services.

1           “(C) APPLICABILITY TO MOVING TO WORK  
2 AGENCIES.—Notwithstanding any other provi-  
3 sion of law, the requirements of this paragraph  
4 shall apply to assistance under this subsection  
5 pursuant to paragraph (2)(B) made available  
6 by each public housing agency participating in  
7 the Moving to Work Program under section 204  
8 of the Departments of Veterans Affairs and  
9 Housing and Urban Development, and Inde-  
10 pendent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1996 (42  
11 U.S.C. 1437f note), except that in lieu of com-  
12 pliance with clause (i) or (ii) of subparagraph  
13 (A) of this paragraph, such an agency may  
14 comply with the requirements under such  
15 clauses by complying with such terms, condi-  
16 tions, and requirements as may be established  
17 by the agency for persons on whose behalf such  
18 rental assistance under this subsection is pro-  
19 vided.

20           “(D) TERMINATION OF VOUCHERS UPON  
21 TURN-OVER.—A public housing agency shall not  
22 reissue any such assistance made available from  
23 appropriated funds when assistance for the  
24 youth initially assisted is terminated, unless  
25 specifically authorized by the Secretary



1           “(E) REPORTS.—The Secretary shall re-  
2           quire each public housing agency that provides  
3           such assistance under this subsection in any fis-  
4           cal year to submit a report to the Secretary for  
5           such fiscal year that—

6                   “(i) specifies the number of persons  
7                   on whose behalf such assistance under this  
8                   subsection was provided during such fiscal  
9                   year;

10                   “(ii) specifies the number of persons  
11                   who applied during such fiscal year for  
12                   such assistance under this subsection, but  
13                   were not provided such assistance, and  
14                   provides a brief identification in each in-  
15                   stance of the reason why the public hous-  
16                   ing agency was unable to award such as-  
17                   sistance; and

18                   “(iii) describes how the public housing  
19                   agency communicated or collaborated with  
20                   public child welfare agencies to collect such  
21                   data.

22           “(F) CONSULTATION.—The Secretary shall  
23           consult with the Secretary of Health and  
24           Human Services to provide such information  
25           and guidance to the Secretary of Health and

1 Human Services as may be necessary to facili-  
2 tate such Secretary in informing States and  
3 public child welfare agencies on how to correctly  
4 and efficiently implement and comply with the  
5 requirements of this subsection relating to as-  
6 sistance provided pursuant to paragraph  
7 (2)(B).”.

8 (b) COORDINATION BETWEEN PHAS AND PUBLIC  
9 CHILD WELFARE AGENCIES.—

10 (1) APPLICABILITY TO FOSTERING STABLE  
11 HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM.—Subparagraph  
12 (A) of section 8(x)(4) of the United States Housing  
13 Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(x)(4)(A)) is amended  
14 by inserting before the semicolon at the end the fol-  
15 lowing: “and establishing a point of contact at public  
16 housing agencies to ensure that public housing agen-  
17 cies receive appropriate referrals regarding eligible  
18 recipients”.

19 (c) PHA ADMINISTRATIVE FEES.—Subsection (q) of  
20 section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42  
21 U.S.C. 1437f(q)) is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
22 lowing new paragraph:

23 “(4) SUPPLEMENTS FOR ADMINISTERING AS-  
24 SISTANCE FOR YOUTH AGING OUT OF FOSTER  
25 CARE.—If a public housing agency has established a

1       residency requirement pursuant to subsection  
2       (r)(1)(B)(i), the Secretary may provide supplemental  
3       fees under this subsection to the agency for the cost  
4       of administering any assistance for foster youth  
5       under subsection (x)(2)(B), in an amount deter-  
6       mined by the Secretary, but only if the agency  
7       waives the residency requirement for such eligible  
8       youth receiving assistance.”.

9       (d) PHA PLANS.—Subsection (d) of section 5A of the  
10      United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437c-  
11      1(d)) is amended—

12             (1) by redesignating paragraph (19) as para-  
13             graph (20); and

14             (2) by inserting after paragraph (18) the fol-  
15             lowing new paragraph:

16             “(19) FOSTERING STABLE HOUSING OPPORTU-  
17             NITIES.—For any public housing agency that will  
18             provide rental assistance pursuant section  
19             8(x)(2)(B) during such fiscal year—

20                     “(A) a statement describing how the agen-  
21                     cy will connect assisted youths with local com-  
22                     munity resources and self-sufficiency services  
23                     and obtain referrals from public child welfare  
24                     agencies regarding youths in foster care who  
25                     become eligible for such assistance; and

1           “(B) if the agency is requesting supple-  
2           mental administrative fees pursuant to section  
3           8(q)(4) and has established a residency require-  
4           ment pursuant to subsection (r)(1)(B)(i), assur-  
5           ances satisfactory to the Secretary that the  
6           agency will waive the residency requirement for  
7           eligible youth receiving such assistance as re-  
8           quired by such section 8(q)(4).”.

9   **SEC. 4. EXCEPTIONS TO LIMITATIONS FOR PROJECT-BASED**  
10                           **VOUCHER ASSISTANCE.**

11           (a) **PERCENTAGE LIMITATION.**—The first sentence of  
12           clause (ii) of section 8(o)(13)(B) of the United States  
13           Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)(13)(B)(ii)) is  
14           amended by inserting before “or that” the following: “that  
15           house eligible youths receiving assistance pursuant to sec-  
16           tion 8(x)(2)(B),”.

17           (b) **INCOME-MIXING REQUIREMENT.**—Subclause (I)  
18           of section 8(o)(13)(D)(ii) of the United States Housing  
19           Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)(13)(D)(ii)(I)) is amend-  
20           ed by inserting after “elderly families” the following: “,  
21           to eligible youths receiving assistance pursuant to section  
22           8(x)(2)(B),”.