

Calendar No. 295

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION**S. 1923**

To authorize appropriations for assistance for the Housing Assistance Council, the Raza Development Fund, and for the Housing Partnership Network (HPN) and its members, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

AUGUST 1, 2007

Mr. DODD, from the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, reported the following original bill; which was read twice and placed on the calendar

A BILL

To authorize appropriations for assistance for the Housing Assistance Council, the Raza Development Fund, and for the Housing Partnership Network (HPN) and its members, 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 “Housing Assistance
5 Authorization Act of 2007”.

1 **SEC. 2. LIMITATION ON USE OF AUTHORIZED AMOUNTS.**

2 None of the amounts authorized by this Act may be
3 used to lobby or retain a lobbyist for the purpose of influ-
4 encing a Federal, State, or local governmental entity or
5 officer.

6 **SEC. 3. ASSISTANCE TO HOUSING ASSISTANCE COUNCIL.**

7 (a) USE.—The Secretary of Housing and Urban De-
8 velopment may provide financial assistance to the Housing
9 Assistance Council for use by such Council to develop the
10 ability and capacity of community-based housing develop-
11 ment organizations to undertake community development
12 and affordable housing projects and programs in rural
13 areas. Assistance provided by the Secretary under this sec-
14 tion may be used by the Housing Assistance Council for—

15 (1) technical assistance, training, support, and
16 advice to develop the business and administrative ca-
17 pabilities of rural community-based housing develop-
18 ment organizations;

19 (2) loans, grants, or other financial assistance
20 to rural community-based housing development orga-
21 nizations to carry out community development and
22 affordable housing activities for low- and moderate-
23 income families; and

24 (3) such other activities as may be determined
25 by the Secretary and the Housing Assistance Coun-
26 cil.

1 (b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
2 authorized to be appropriated for financial assistance
3 under this section for the Housing Assistance Council—

4 (1) \$5,000,000 for fiscal year 2008; and

5 (2) \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2009
6 and 2010.

7 **SEC. 4. ASSISTANCE FOR RAZA DEVELOPMENT FUND.**

8 (a) USE.—The Secretary of Housing and Urban De-
9 velopment may make a grant to the Raza Development
10 Fund for the purpose of providing technical and financial
11 assistance to local non-profit organizations to undertake
12 community development and affordable housing projects
13 and programs serving low- and moderate-income house-
14 holds, particularly through organizations located in neigh-
15 borhoods with substantial populations of income-disadvan-
16 taged households of Hispanic origin. Assistance provided
17 by the Secretary under this section may be used by the
18 Raza Development Fund to—

19 (1) provide technical and financial assistance
20 for site acquisition and development, construction fi-
21 nancing, and short- and long-term financing for
22 housing, community facilities, and economic develop-
23 ment;

1 (2) leverage capital from private entities, in-
2 cluding private financial institutions, insurance com-
3 panies, and private philanthropic organizations;

4 (3) provide technical assistance, training, sup-
5 port, and advice to develop the management, finan-
6 cial, and administrative capabilities of housing devel-
7 opment organizations serving low-income households,
8 including Hispanic households; and

9 (4) conduct such other activities as may be de-
10 termined by the Secretary and the Raza Develop-
11 ment Fund.

12 (b) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There is
13 authorized to be appropriated for grants under this sec-
14 tion—

15 (1) \$5,000,000 for fiscal year 2008; and

16 (2) \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2009
17 and 2010.

18 **SEC. 5. ASSISTANCE FOR THE HOUSING PARTNERSHIP NET-**
19 **WORK.**

20 (a) **USE.**—The Secretary of Housing and Urban De-
21 velopment may make a grant to the Housing Partnership
22 Network (hereafter referred to as the “Network”) for the
23 purpose of creating, sustaining, and improving access to
24 affordable housing and community facilities that benefit
25 very low-, low- and moderate-income households and com-

1 munities. Assistance provided by the Secretary under this
2 section may be used by the Network to—

3 (1) make investments, loans, and grants to its
4 member nonprofits that demonstrate expertise in
5 using such funds to leverage additional private cap-
6 ital to build, operate, finance, and sustain affordable
7 housing and related community development facili-
8 ties;

9 (2) make investments in entities sponsored by
10 the Network with the intent to leverage additional
11 private capital for the purpose of furthering the pro-
12 duction capacity, sustainability, or efficiency of its
13 members;

14 (3) pay for the necessary and reasonable ex-
15 penses of the Network to administer and oversee
16 such investments, including the cost of underwriting,
17 managing the assets of the Network, and reporting
18 to the Secretary and other capital providers, pro-
19 vided however, that such expenses do not exceed 6
20 percent of any amounts made available pursuant to
21 subsection (b); and

22 (4) conduct such other activities as may be de-
23 termined by the Secretary and the Network.

1 (b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
2 authorized to be appropriated for grants under this sec-
3 tion—

4 (1) \$5,000,000 for fiscal year 2008; and

5 (2) \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2009
6 and 2010.

7 **SEC. 6. AUDITS AND REPORTS.**

8 (a) AUDIT.—In any year in which an entity or organi-
9 zation described under either section 3, 4, or 5 receives
10 funds under this Act, the Comptroller General of the
11 United States shall—

12 (1) audit the financial transactions and activi-
13 ties of such entity or organization only with respect
14 to such funds so received; and

15 (2) submit a report detailing such audit to the
16 Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
17 of the Senate and the Committee on Financial Serv-
18 ices of the House of Representatives.

19 (b) GAO REPORT.—The Comptroller General of the
20 United States shall conduct a study and submit a report
21 to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Af-
22 fairs of the Senate and the Committee on Financial Serv-
23 ices of the House of Representative on the use of any
24 funds appropriated to an entity or organization described
25 under either section 3, 4, or 5 over the past 10 years.

1 **SEC. 7. PERSONS NOT LAWFULLY PRESENT IN THE UNITED**
2 **STATES.**

3 None of the funds made available under this Act may
4 be used to provide direct housing assistance to any person
5 not lawfully present in the United States.

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