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(Original Signature of Member)

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R.

To amend the United States Housing Act of 1937 to establish a demonstration program to set aside section 8 housing vouchers for supportive housing for individuals recovering from opioid addiction, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. BARR introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee
on _____

A BILL

To amend the United States Housing Act of 1937 to establish a demonstration program to set aside section 8 housing vouchers for supportive housing for individuals recovering from opioid addiction, 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 “Transitional Housing
5 for Opioid Recovery Demonstration Program Act of
6 2018”.

1 **SEC. 2. DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM TO STUDY THE IMPACT**
2 **OF USING RENTAL VOUCHERS FOR SUP-**
3 **PORTIVE HOUSING FOR INDIVIDUALS RECOV-**
4 **ERING FROM OPIOID ADDICTION.**

5 Section 8(o) of the United States Housing Act of
6 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)) is amended by adding at the
7 end the following new paragraph:

8 “(21) RENTAL VOUCHER DEMONSTRATION PRO-
9 GRAM FOR SUPPORTIVE HOUSING FOR INDIVIDUALS
10 RECOVERING FROM OPIOID ADDICTION.—

11 “(A) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary
12 shall establish a demonstration program under
13 which the Secretary shall set aside, from
14 amounts made available for rental assistance
15 under this subsection, the amounts specified in
16 subparagraph (B) for an eligible entity to pro-
17 vide a voucher for such assistance to a covered
18 individual through a supportive housing pro-
19 gram that provides treatment for opioid use dis-
20 orders, job skills training, and such assistance
21 for a period of 12 to 24 months.

22 “(B) AMOUNT.—The amount specified in
23 this subparagraph is, for each of fiscal years
24 2019 through 2023, the amount necessary to
25 provide the lesser of—

1 “(i) 0.5 percent of the total number of
2 vouchers allocated under this subsection
3 during the fiscal year ending immediately
4 before the date of the enactment of this
5 paragraph; or

6 “(ii) 10,000 vouchers.

7 “(C) CRITERIA FOR ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—
8 An eligible entity shall provide an evidence-
9 based treatment program and a job skills train-
10 ing program for individuals recovering from an
11 opioid use disorder that meet standards estab-
12 lished by the Secretary.

13 “(D) SELECTION.—In selecting eligible en-
14 tities to receive rental assistance vouchers
15 under this paragraph, the Secretary shall—

16 “(i) ensure that such eligible enti-
17 ties—

18 “(I) are diverse;

19 “(II) represent an appropriate
20 balance of eligible entities located in
21 urban and rural areas; and

22 “(III) provide supportive housing
23 programs in diverse geographic re-
24 gions with high rates of mortality due
25 to opioid use disorders, based on data

1 of the Centers for Disease Control
2 and Prevention.

3 “(ii) consider—

4 “(I) the success of each recipient
5 eligible entity at helping individuals
6 complete the treatment program of
7 the eligible entity and refrain from
8 opioid usage;

9 “(II) the type of job skills train-
10 ing program provided by the eligible
11 entity;

12 “(III) the percentage of partici-
13 pants in the job skills training pro-
14 gram that gain and maintain employ-
15 ment;

16 “(IV) the percentage of partici-
17 pants in the treatment program of the
18 eligible entity that—

19 “(aa) do not relapse into
20 opioid usage; and

21 “(bb) do not receive Federal
22 assistance for treatment of an
23 opioid use disorder after comple-
24 tion of the program.

1 “(E) TRANSFER OF VOUCHER.—Upon ter-
2 mination of the provision of rental assistance
3 through a voucher to a covered individual, the
4 eligible entity that initially offered such voucher
5 may use such voucher to provide rental assist-
6 ance to another covered individual.

7 “(F) DURATION.—The Secretary shall not
8 make rental assistance available under this
9 paragraph after the expiration of the 5-year pe-
10 riod beginning on the date of the enactment of
11 this paragraph.

12 “(G) REPORT.—The Secretary shall sub-
13 mit to Congress a report that analyzes the im-
14 pact of rental assistance provided under this
15 paragraph—

16 “(i) not later than 2 years after the
17 date of the enactment of this paragraph;
18 and

19 “(ii) not later than 4 years after the
20 date of the enactment of this paragraph,
21 that includes recommendations for the con-
22 tinuation or expansion of the program es-
23 tablished under this paragraph and im-
24 proving the process for providing such as-
25 sistance.

1 “(H) DEFINITIONS.—In this paragraph:

2 “(i) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term ‘el-
3 ible entity’ means a nonprofit organiza-
4 tion that meets the criteria described
5 under subparagraph (C).

6 “(ii) COVERED INDIVIDUAL.—The
7 term ‘covered individual’ means an indi-
8 vidual recovering from an opioid use dis-
9 order.”.

10 **SEC. 3. REPEAL OF RENTAL VOUCHER DEMONSTRATION**
11 **PROGRAM.**

12 Effective the day that is 5 years after the date of
13 the enactment of this Act, paragraph (21) of section 8(o)
14 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C.
15 1437f(o)), as added by this Act, is repealed.

16 **SEC. 4. RETURN OF VOUCHERS.**

17 An eligible entity that provided vouchers for rental
18 assistance under paragraph (21) of section 8(o) of the
19 United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)),
20 as added by this Act, shall return any such vouchers to
21 the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development on the
22 day that is 5 years after the date of the enactment of this
23 Act.