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(Original Signature of Member)

118TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

**H. R.** \_\_\_\_\_

To authorize the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to make grants to States, territories, and Indian tribes to support local resiliency offices, and for other purposes.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. CROW introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee  
on \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**A BILL**

To authorize the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to make grants to States, territories, and Indian tribes to support local resiliency offices, 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 “Championing Local  
5 Efforts to Advance Resilience Act of 2024” or the  
6 “CLEAR Act of 2024”.

1 **SEC. 2. RESILIENCY OFFICE GRANTS.**

2 (a) **AUTHORITY.**—The Secretary of Housing and  
3 Urban Development, in consultation with the Adminis-  
4 trator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the  
5 Secretary of Commerce, and the Secretary of the Interior,  
6 may make grants under this section to States, territories,  
7 and Indian tribes that are eligible for such grants pursu-  
8 ant to subsection (b) for use in accordance with subsection  
9 (c).

10 (b) **ELIGIBILITY.**—To be eligible for a grant under  
11 this section, a State, territory, or Indian tribe shall estab-  
12 lish and maintain, or show a plan and ability to establish  
13 and maintain, an office specifically responsible for issues  
14 relating to resilience and that has among its duties the  
15 following:

16 (1) To develop and update, not less frequently  
17 than every 5 years, a resiliency framework, in con-  
18 sultation with vulnerable and impacted communities,  
19 that identifies current and projected risks and  
20 vulnerabilities due to extreme weather and other  
21 challenges, and provides recommendations to address  
22 such risks and vulnerabilities, in each of the areas  
23 of—

24 (A) environmental and natural hazards;

25 (B) the economy and workforce;

26 (C) infrastructure;

1 (D) health and social services; and

2 (E) housing.

3 (2) To implement programming to address risks  
4 and vulnerabilities identified in the resiliency frame-  
5 work, including—

6 (A) providing technical assistance to local  
7 governments for the implementation of resil-  
8 ience planning;

9 (B) assisting State, territory, or tribal  
10 agencies in the implementation of resilience  
11 policies and procedures;

12 (C) integrating resilience criteria into ex-  
13 isting competitive grant funding administered  
14 by such office or State agencies; and

15 (D) supporting long-term community pre-  
16 disaster mitigation and recovery efforts and fa-  
17 cilitating access to resources before and after a  
18 disaster.

19 (3) To improve coordination among State, terri-  
20 tory, or tribal agencies and regional and local juris-  
21 dictions to support community and economic recov-  
22 ery efforts and address risk and vulnerability reduc-  
23 tion.

1 (c) USE.—Amounts from a grant under this section  
2 may be used by the grantee, or any unit of local govern-  
3 ment that is a subgrantee of such grantee, only for—

4 (1) costs of establishing or maintaining, or  
5 both, a resiliency office and implementing resiliency  
6 programming, developing resilience planning and  
7 analytic tools, enhancing community planning and  
8 capacity, enhancing coordination among State, terri-  
9 tory, or tribal agencies and regional and local juris-  
10 dictions and stakeholders, and providing technical  
11 assistance, in accordance with the requirements of  
12 subsection (b); and

13 (2) payment of any non-Federal share required  
14 in connection with a Federal program undertaken to  
15 carry out any of the purposes of subsection (b)(2).

16 (d) APPLICATIONS.—To apply for a grant under this  
17 section, a State, territory, or Indian tribe shall submit an  
18 application at such time, in such form, and containing  
19 such information as the Secretary may prescribe for estab-  
20 lishing a formula-based grant program.

21 (e) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under this sec-  
22 tion to States or territories, the Secretary shall give pri-  
23 ority to applications that—

24 (1) demonstrate the greatest need for assistance  
25 under this section, as determined by the Secretary;

1           (2) identify vulnerabilities and risks in dis-  
2           advantaged communities and prioritize projects to  
3           benefit such communities and promote equity in re-  
4           silience;

5           (3) demonstrate a broad approach to resilience,  
6           as such term is defined in subsection (j)(3); and

7           (4) provide for subgrants to entities that adhere  
8           to prevailing wage provisions as published by the  
9           Department of Labor.

10          (f) AMOUNT.—The Secretary shall award formula  
11          grants in an amount sufficient to provide funding to a  
12          grantee to cover a minimum of 24 months of grant activi-  
13          ties.

14          (g) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary shall,  
15          in consultation with the Administrator of the Federal  
16          Emergency Management Agency, the Secretary of Com-  
17          merce, the Secretary of the Interior, and such other heads  
18          of Federal agencies as the Secretary considers appro-  
19          priate, provide technical assistance to grantees regarding  
20          developing resiliency frameworks and implementing resili-  
21          ency strategies.

22          (h) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—Of any amounts made  
23          available for grants under this section, the Secretary may  
24          use 1.0 percent for—

1 (1) the costs of administering the program  
2 under this section for such grants; and

3 (2) for providing technical assistance—

4 (A) to applicants for such grants; and

5 (B) under subsection (g).

6 (i) REPORTS TO HUD.—Not later than 90 days after  
7 the end of each fiscal year for which a grantee receives  
8 a grant under this section, the grantee shall submit a re-  
9 port to the Secretary regarding the use of such grant  
10 amounts, which shall include—

11 (1) a description of the activities undertaken by  
12 the grantee using such grant amounts;

13 (2) identification of the costs of each of the  
14 services provided using such grant amounts; and

15 (3) assessments of the effectiveness of the grant  
16 program under this section and the programs car-  
17 ried out by the resiliency office of the grantee and  
18 recommendations for improving such programs.

19 (j) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

20 (1) DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITY.—The term  
21 “disadvantaged community” shall have such mean-  
22 ing as shall be established by regulation by the Sec-  
23 retary, in consultation with the heads of other ap-  
24 propriate Federal agencies, using such indicators  
25 and metrics as the Secretary considers appropriate.

1           (2) GRANTEE.—The term “grantee” means a  
2           State, territory, or Indian tribe to which a grant  
3           under this section is made.

4           (3) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term “Indian tribe”  
5           has the meaning given such term in section 4 of the  
6           Native American Housing and Self-Determination  
7           Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4103).

8           (4) RESILIENCE.—The term “resilience”  
9           means, with respect to a community, the ability to  
10          rebound, positively adapt to, or thrive amidst chang-  
11          ing conditions or challenges, including human-caused  
12          and natural disasters, and to maintain quality of  
13          life, healthy growth, durable systems, economic vital-  
14          ity, and conservation of resources for present and  
15          future generations.

16          (5) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means  
17          the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

18          (6) STATE.—The term “State” means a State  
19          of the United States and the District of Columbia.

20          (7) TERRITORY.—The term “territory” means  
21          the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, the  
22          Northern Mariana Islands, the Virgin Islands, and  
23          American Samoa.

24          (k) FUNDING.—

1           (1) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

2           There is authorized to be appropriated for grants  
3           under this section \$200,000,000 for each of fiscal  
4           years 2024 through 2029.

5           (2) SET-ASIDE FOR INDIAN TRIBES.—Of any

6           amounts appropriated for a fiscal year for grants  
7           under this section, the Secretary shall reserve 10  
8           percent for grants to Indian tribes. The Secretary  
9           shall allocate such amounts reserved, among Indian  
10          tribes having applications for grants under this sec-  
11          tion for such fiscal year approved by the Secretary,  
12          on the basis of a competition conducted pursuant to  
13          specific criteria for the selection of Indian tribes to  
14          receive such amounts. The criteria shall be contained  
15          in a regulation promulgated by the Secretary, in  
16          consultation with the Secretary of the Interior, after  
17          notice and opportunity for public comment.