To increase the number of tenant-based rental assistance vouchers made available for low-income families displaced by Hurricane Sandy.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 23, 2013

Ms. Velázquez (for herself, Mr. Rangel, Mr. Serrano, and Mr. Jeffries) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committees on Appropriations and the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To increase the number of tenant-based rental assistance vouchers made available for low-income families displaced by Hurricane Sandy.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Safely Sheltering Disaster Victims Act of 2013”.

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SEC. 2. TRANSFER OF AMOUNTS TO PROVIDE TENANT-BASED RENTAL ASSISTANCE FOR LOW-INCOME FAMILIES DISPLACED BY HURRICANE SANDY.

(a) TRANSFER.—Of the amounts made available for “Department of Housing and Urban Development—Community Planning and Development—Community Development Fund” in title VIII of the Disaster Relief Appropriations Act, 2013 (division A of Public Law 113–2; 127 Stat. 15), $50,000,000, to remain available until expended, is hereby transferred to “Department of Housing and Urban Development—Public and Indian Housing—Tenant-Based Rental Assistance” for an additional amount for the activities and assistance provided in this section.

(b) USE FOR DISASTER ASSISTANCE.—The amounts transferred by subsection (a) shall be used only for activities and assistance for the provision of tenant-based rental assistance, including related administrative expenses, authorized under the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437 et seq.) to areas impacted by Hurricane Sandy, subject to the following requirements:

(1) EXPEDITED AVAILABILITY.—The amounts transferred by subsection (a) shall be made available for such tenant-based rental assistance not later
than the expiration of the 60-day period that begins
on the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) WAIVER OF PHA PROJECT-BASED LIMITATION.—In carrying out the activities authorized
under this heading, the Secretary shall waive section
8(o)(13)(B) of the United States Housing Act of
1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)(13)(B)).

(3) LOCAL ADMISSIONS PREFERENCE.—
Amounts transferred by subsection (a) may be pro-
vided only to public housing agencies that agree to
provide a preference, pursuant to section 8(o)(6)(A)
of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42
U.S.C. 1437f(o)(6)(A)), for making tenant-based as-
sistance under such section 8(o) available to eligible
families displaced by Hurricane Sandy.

(4) ELIGIBLE FAMILIES.—Amounts transferred
by subsection (a) may be used only for tenant-based
rental assistance for families that are otherwise eligi-
ble for such assistance under the terms of the pro-
gram for such assistance under section 8(o) of the
United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C.
1437f(o)).

(5) CONTINUATION OF ASSISTANCE.—An eligi-
ble family that is provided tenant-based rental as-
sistance with amounts transferred by subsection (a)
may continue to receive such assistance after the
transferred amounts are no longer available for such
assistance, subject to the eligibility of such family
and the availability of amounts for such assistance
made available in appropriation Acts.

(c) Emergency Designation.—Amounts trans-
ferred under subsection (a) shall retain their designation
as an emergency requirement pursuant to section
251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency