

117TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 6531

AN ACT

To provide an increased allocation of funding under certain programs for assistance in areas of persistent poverty, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Targeting Resources
3 to Communities in Need Act of 2022”.

4 **SEC. 2. INCREASING SHARE OF FEDERAL RESOURCES TO**
5 **AREAS OF PERSISTENT POVERTY AND OTHER**
6 **HIGH-POVERTY AREAS.**

7 (a) INCREASING SHARE OF FEDERAL RESOURCES.—

8 (1) GUIDANCE AND MEASURES TO INCREASE
9 FEDERAL INVESTMENTS.—Not later than 1 year
10 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director,
11 in consultation with Federal agencies, shall imple-
12 ment guidance to increase the share of Federal in-
13 vestments targeted to—

14 (A) areas of persistent poverty; and

15 (B) other areas of high and persistent pov-
16 erty that the Director, in consultation with
17 Federal agencies, determines to be appropriate.

18 (2) GUIDANCE FOR AGENCIES.—Not later than
19 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the
20 Director shall issue guidance to Federal agencies
21 identifying—

22 (A) the scope and type of programs subject
23 to the guidance and measures required by para-
24 graph (1);

1 (B) the share of Federal investments to be
2 targeted to the areas described under para-
3 graph (1);

4 (C) the manner in which Federal invest-
5 ments are to be targeted to the areas described
6 under paragraph (1); and

7 (D) measures to track the Federal invest-
8 ments targeted to the areas described under
9 paragraph (1) over time.

10 (3) INVESTMENT AMOUNT.—In developing the
11 guidance and measures under paragraph (1), the Di-
12 rector shall include a minimum goal that Federal in-
13 vestments targeted to areas of persistent poverty or
14 other areas with high and persistent poverty be in
15 an amount that is greater than the amount that is
16 proportional to the population of such areas in the
17 United States relative to the population of the
18 United States as a whole.

19 (4) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—The Director, in
20 consultation with Federal agencies, shall submit
21 each fiscal year to the appropriate committees of
22 Congress a report that includes—

23 (A) a list of the programs, by agency,
24 under which the amount of Federal funds tar-
25 geted to areas described under paragraph (1)

1 were increased in the previous fiscal year, in ac-
2 cordance with such paragraph; and

3 (B) for each program listed under sub-
4 paragraph (A)—

5 (i) the amount of funds that were tar-
6 geted under the program to an area of per-
7 sistent poverty or other area with high and
8 persistent poverty during the previous fis-
9 cal year;

10 (ii) the percent change from the fiscal
11 year before the previous fiscal year in the
12 amount of funds that were targeted under
13 the program toward an area of persistent
14 poverty or other area with high and per-
15 sistent poverty; and

16 (iii) to the extent practicable, an as-
17 sessment of the economic impact of the
18 program on the area, including data on the
19 categories of individuals impacted by the
20 targeting of funds to such areas under the
21 program, disaggregated by household in-
22 come, race, gender, age, national origin,
23 disability status, and whether the individ-
24 uals live in an urban area, suburban area,
25 or rural area.

1 (b) PUBLICATION OF LIST OF AREAS OF PERSISTENT
2 POVERTY.—

3 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 60 days after
4 the date of enactment of this Act, the Bureau of the
5 Census shall publish a list of all areas of persistent
6 poverty.

7 (2) UPDATE.—The Bureau of the Census shall
8 update annually the list published under paragraph
9 (1).

10 (c) GAO REPORTS.—

11 (1) INITIAL REPORT.—Not later than two years
12 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comp-
13 troller General of the United States shall provide to
14 the appropriate committees of Congress a report on
15 the effectiveness of the measures implemented under
16 subsection (a), including an assessment regarding
17 the impact of increasing Federal investments spent
18 in areas of persistent poverty and other areas with
19 high and persistent poverty.

20 (2) SUBSEQUENT REPORTS.—Not later than 10
21 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the
22 Comptroller General of the United States shall pro-
23 vide at least two subsequent reports (as described in
24 paragraph (1)) to the appropriate committees of
25 Congress.

1 (d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
2 authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 2023,
3 \$5,000,000 for salaries and expenses (including for enter-
4 ing contracts with non-Federal persons) to carry out this
5 Act.

6 (e) DEFINITIONS.—In this Act:

7 (1) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CON-
8 GRESS.—The term “appropriate committees of Con-
9 gress” means—

10 (A) the Committee on Appropriations, the
11 Committee on the Budget, the Committee on
12 Commerce, Science, and Transportation, and
13 the Committee on Homeland Security and Gov-
14 ernmental Affairs of the Senate;

15 (B) the Committee on Appropriations, the
16 Committee on the Budget, the Committee on
17 Energy and Commerce, the Committee on
18 Transportation and Infrastructure, and the
19 Committee on Oversight and Reform of the
20 House of Representatives; and

21 (C) any other committee of Congress that
22 has jurisdiction over an agency with a role de-
23 veloping or implementing measures under sub-
24 section (a).

1 (2) AREA OF PERSISTENT POVERTY.—The term
2 “area of persistent poverty” means an area that is
3 a high-poverty census tract or a persistent poverty
4 county.

5 (3) DIRECTOR.—The term “Director” means
6 the Director of the Office of Management and Budg-
7 et.

8 (4) HIGH-POVERTY CENSUS TRACT.—The term
9 “high-poverty census tract” means a census tract
10 that has a poverty rate of not less than 20 percent
11 in the most recent American Community Survey 5-
12 year data published by the Bureau of the Census,
13 and in the case of areas where no such data is col-
14 lected from the American Community Survey, such
15 term includes a census tract with a poverty rate of
16 not less than 20 percent in the most recent decen-
17 nial census of population conducted by the Bureau.

18 (5) PERSISTENT POVERTY COUNTY.—The term
19 “persistent poverty county” means—

20 (A) a county, parish, or other equivalent
21 county division (as determined by the Bureau of
22 the Census) with a poverty rate of not less than
23 20 percent in the Small Area Income and Pov-
24 erty Estimates by the Bureau of the Census in
25 at least 25 of the last 30 years, including the

1 most recent year for which the estimates are
2 available; or

3 (B) for areas where Small Area Income
4 and Poverty Estimates are not available, a
5 county, parish, or equivalent level of geography,
6 with a poverty rate of not less than 20 percent
7 in at least 25 of the last 30 years, including the
8 most recent year for which an estimate is avail-
9 able, as determined by the Bureau of the Cen-
10 sus.

Passed the House of Representatives May 18, 2022.

Attest:

Clerk.

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