

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 145

To establish a grant program to support cluster-based economic development efforts.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 4, 2005

Mr. MCHUGH introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Financial Services, 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 establish a grant program to support cluster-based economic development efforts.

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. GRANTS FOR CLUSTER-BASED ECONOMIC DE-**
4 **VELOPMENT.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Title II of the Public Works and
6 Economic Development Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3141 et
7 seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

1 **“SEC. 219. GRANTS FOR CLUSTER-BASED ECONOMIC DE-**
2 **VELOPMENT.**

3 “(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the following
4 definitions apply:

5 “(1) CLUSTER.—The term ‘cluster’ means a
6 cluster of entities that are engaged—

7 “(A) in similar industries; and

8 “(B) in joint activities to boost competi-
9 tiveness and growth.

10 “(2) ELIGIBLE APPLICANT.—The term ‘eligible
11 applicant’ means—

12 “(A) a State or local government;

13 “(B) an institution of higher education; or

14 “(C) a nonprofit economic development or-
15 ganization.

16 “(3) REGION.—The term ‘region’ means an
17 area—

18 “(A) that is determined by the Secretary
19 to qualify for grants under this section; and

20 “(B) that, on the date of submission of an
21 application for a grant under this section, meets
22 1 or more of the criteria described in section
23 301(a).

24 “(b) GRANTS.—On the application of an eligible ap-
25 plicant, the Secretary may make grants—

26 “(1) to assess clusters in a region;

1 “(2) to assess the needs of entities involved in
2 a region;

3 “(3) to market cluster development programs in
4 a region; and

5 “(4) to support staff to operate cluster pro-
6 grams in a region.

7 “(c) MAXIMUM ASSISTANCE FOR EACH REGION.—
8 Not more than \$1,000,000 of the amounts made available
9 to carry out this section may be expended in any 1 region.

10 “(d) COST SHARING.—

11 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Federal share of the
12 cost of a project carried out using funds made avail-
13 able under this section shall be 50 percent.

14 “(2) IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS.—Not more than
15 50 percent of the non-Federal share of the cost of
16 a project carried out using funds made available
17 under this section may be provided through in-kind
18 contributions.

19 “(3) INAPPLICABILITY OF CERTAIN SECTION.—
20 Section 204 shall not apply to this section.

21 “(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
22 is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
23 \$50,000,000, to remain available until expended.”.

24 “(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of con-
25 tents contained in section 1(b) of the Public Works and

1 Economic Development Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3121
2 note) is amended by inserting after the item relating to
3 section 218 the following:

“Sec. 219. Grants for cluster-based economic development.”.

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