

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4431

To authorize financial assistance under the community development block grant program for disaster relief and recovery for communities affected by Hurricane Katrina or Hurricane Rita.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 18, 2005

Mr. WICKER (for himself and Mr. PICKERING) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Financial Services

A BILL

To authorize financial assistance under the community development block grant program for disaster relief and recovery for communities affected by Hurricane Katrina or Hurricane Rita.

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. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT AS-**
4 **SISTANCE.**

5 (a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—In addi-
6 tion to any other amounts authorized to be appropriated
7 under other provisions of law, there is authorized to be
8 appropriated for fiscal year 2006 for activities authorized

1 under title I of the Housing and Community Development
2 Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.), \$13,000,000,000,
3 to remain available until expended.

4 (b) USE.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—Any amounts made available
6 pursuant to this section shall be used only for dis-
7 aster relief, long-term recovery, and mitigation in
8 communities in any area for which the President de-
9 clared a major disaster or emergency under title IV
10 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emer-
11 gency Assistance Act in connection with Hurricane
12 Katrina or Hurricane Rita, except those activities
13 reimbursable by the Federal Emergency Manage-
14 ment Agency.

15 (2) USE UNDER CDBG PROGRAM.—Any
16 amounts made available pursuant to this section
17 shall be administered by each State in conjunction
18 with its community development block grants pro-
19 gram. Notwithstanding paragraph (2) of section
20 106(d) of the Housing and Community Development
21 Act of 1974, States may provide assistance with
22 amounts made available under this section to entitle-
23 ment communities.

24 (3) PROJECTS IN PROGRESS.—In the case of
25 any project or activity in an area described in para-

1 graph (1) that was underway before the Presidential
2 declaration with respect to such area, the project or
3 activity may not be provided any amounts made
4 available under this section unless the disaster or
5 emergency for which such declaration was made di-
6 rectly impacted the project.

7 (c) ALLOCATION.—Any amounts made available pur-
8 suant to this section shall be awarded by the Secretary
9 of Housing and Urban Development to States (including
10 Indian tribes for all purposes under this section) as fol-
11 lows:

12 (1) 60 percent of such amounts shall be award-
13 ed to the State of Louisiana.

14 (2) 40 percent of such amounts shall be award-
15 ed to the State of Mississippi.

16 (d) WAIVER.—

17 (1) AUTHORITY.—In administering any
18 amounts made available under this section, the Sec-
19 retary may waive, or specify alternative require-
20 ments for, any provision of any statute or regulation
21 that the Secretary administers in connection with
22 the obligation by the Secretary or the use by the re-
23 cipient of such amounts (except for requirements re-
24 lated to fair housing, nondiscrimination, labor stand-
25 ards, and the environment), upon a finding that

1 such waiver is required to facilitate the use of such
2 amounts, and would not be inconsistent with the
3 overall purpose of the statute. The Secretary may
4 waive the requirements that activities benefit per-
5 sons of low and moderate income, except that at
6 least 50 percent of the amounts made available
7 under this section shall benefit primarily persons of
8 low and moderate income unless the Secretary
9 makes a finding of compelling need.

10 (2) PUBLICATION.—The Secretary shall publish
11 in the Federal Register any waiver of any statute or
12 regulation authorized under this subsection no later
13 than 5 days before the effective date of such waiver.

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