

112TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 5521

To amend the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 to set-aside community development block grant amounts in each fiscal year for grants to local chapters of veterans service organizations for rehabilitation of their facilities.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 7, 2012

Mr. WALSH of Illinois introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Financial Services

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## A BILL

To amend the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 to set-aside community development block grant amounts in each fiscal year for grants to local chapters of veterans service organizations for rehabilitation of their facilities.

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 “Renovate and Enhance  
5       Veterans’ Meeting Halls and Posts Act of 2012” or the  
6       “REVAMP Act of 2012”.

1 **SEC. 2. COMPETITIVE GRANTS TO VETERANS SERVICE OR-**  
2 **GANIZATIONS FOR FACILITY REHABILITA-**  
3 **TION.**

4 (a) GRANTS.—Section 107 of the Housing and Com-  
5 munity Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5307) is  
6 amended by adding at the end the following new sub-  
7 section:

8 “(g) COMPETITIVE GRANTS TO VETERANS SERVICE  
9 ORGANIZATIONS FOR FACILITY REHABILITATION.—

10 “(1) AUTHORITY.—Using the amounts made  
11 available under section 106(a)(1) in each fiscal year  
12 for grants under this subsection, the Secretary shall  
13 make grants, on a competitive basis, to eligible vet-  
14 erans service organizations for use for repairs and  
15 rehabilitation of existing facilities of such organiza-  
16 tions.

17 “(2) ELIGIBLE VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZA-  
18 TIONS.—For purposes of this subsection, the term  
19 ‘eligible veterans service organization’ means—

20 “(A) an entity that is exempt from tax-  
21 ation pursuant to section 501(c)(19) of the In-  
22 ternal Revenue Code of 1986 (26 U.S.C.  
23 501(c)(19)) and is organized on a local or area  
24 basis; and

25 “(B) a local or area chapter, post, or other  
26 unit of a national, regional, Statewide, or other

1 larger entity of which local or area chapters,  
2 posts, or units are members, that is exempt  
3 from taxation pursuant to section 501(c)(19) of  
4 the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (26 U.S.C.  
5 501(c)(19)).

6 Such term does not include any such national, re-  
7 gional, Statewide, or other larger entity.

8 “(3) LIMITATIONS.—

9 “(A) AMOUNT.—No eligible veterans serv-  
10 ice organization may receive grant amounts  
11 under this subsection, from the amounts made  
12 available for any single fiscal year, in an  
13 amount exceeding the lesser of—

14 “(i) the cost of the proposed repair or  
15 rehabilitation; or

16 “(ii) \$250,000, as such amount is ad-  
17 justed annually according to an inflation  
18 index as the Secretary shall provide.

19 “(B) TIMING.—Any eligible veterans serv-  
20 ice organization that receives grant amounts  
21 under this subsection from amounts made avail-  
22 able for a fiscal year shall be ineligible for any  
23 grant from any amounts made available for  
24 such grants for any of the succeeding 5 fiscal  
25 years.

1           “(4) APPLICATIONS.—Applications for assist-  
2           ance under this subsection may be submitted only by  
3           eligible veterans service organizations, and shall be  
4           in such form and in accordance with such proce-  
5           dures as the Secretary shall establish. Such applica-  
6           tions shall include a plan for the proposed repair or  
7           rehabilitation activities to be conducted using grant  
8           amounts under this subsection.

9           “(5) SELECTION; CRITERIA.—The Secretary  
10          shall select applications to receive grants under this  
11          subsection pursuant to a competition and based on  
12          criteria for such selection, which shall include—

13               “(A) the extent of need for such assist-  
14               ance;

15               “(B) the quality of the plan proposed for  
16               repair or rehabilitation of the facility involved;

17               “(C) the capacity or potential capacity of  
18               the applicant to successfully carry out the plan;  
19               and

20               “(D) such other factors as the Secretary  
21               determines to be appropriate.

22          “(6) PROHIBITION OF CONSTRUCTION OR AC-  
23          QUISITION.—No amounts from a grant under this  
24          subsection may be used for the construction or ac-  
25          quisition of a new facility.”.

1 (b) FUNDING.—Subsection (a) of section 106 of the  
2 Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42  
3 U.S.C. 5306(a)) is amended—

4 (1) in paragraph (3), by striking “After” and  
5 all that follows through “paragraph (2)” and insert-  
6 ing the following: “After reserving such amounts for  
7 veterans service organizations under paragraph (1),  
8 for Indian tribes under paragraph (2), and for insu-  
9 lar areas under paragraph (3)”;

10 (2) in paragraph (4), by striking “and (3)” and  
11 inserting “(3), and (4)”;

12 (3) by redesignating paragraphs (1), (2), (3),  
13 and (4), as so amended, as paragraphs (2), (3), (4),  
14 and (5), respectively; and

15 (4) by inserting before paragraph (2) the fol-  
16 lowing new paragraph:

17 “(1) For each fiscal year, the Secretary shall  
18 reserve, for grants under section 107(g), 2 percent  
19 of the amount approved in appropriation Acts under  
20 section 103 for grants for such fiscal year (excluding  
21 the amounts provided for use in accordance with sec-  
22 tion 107).”.

23 (c) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary of Housing and  
24 Urban Development shall issue any regulations necessary  
25 to carry out sections 106(a)(4) and 107(g) of the Housing

1 and Community Development Act of 1974, as added by  
2 the amendments made by this section, not later than the  
3 expiration of the 90-day period beginning on the date of  
4 the enactment of this Act.

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