

113TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5409

To require consultation with State and local officials prior to awarding a grant or contract for housing facilities for unaccompanied alien children.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 8, 2014

Mr. BARLETTA introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To require consultation with State and local officials prior to awarding a grant or contract for housing facilities for unaccompanied alien children.

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 “Unaccompanied Alien
5 Children Transparency Act of 2014”.

6 **SEC. 2. REQUIREMENTS BEFORE AWARDING GRANTS OR**
7 **CONTRACTS FOR HOUSING FACILITIES FOR**
8 **UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHILDREN.**

9 Section 235(i) of the William Wilberforce Trafficking
10 Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C.

1 1232(i)) is amended by adding at the end the following:
2 “Before awarding any grant or contract under this sub-
3 section that provides for housing of unaccompanied alien
4 children, the Secretary shall—

5 “(1) notify in writing State and local elected of-
6 ficials regarding the location of the facility and the
7 duration of the grant or contract;

8 “(2) provide State and local elected officials a
9 written assessment of the grant or contract’s impact
10 on the community’s public safety, and educational
11 and health systems;

12 “(3) provide State and local elected officials a
13 written assessment of the grant or contract’s impact
14 on the community’s fiscal needs;

15 “(4) certify in writing to State and local elected
16 officials that all unaccompanied alien children to be
17 housed at the facility will have undergone health
18 screenings, including vaccinations, and will not
19 present a risk to the public health;

20 “(5) certify in writing to State and local elected
21 officials that all unaccompanied alien children to be
22 housed at the facility will have undergone back-
23 ground checks and will have been determined not to
24 present a risk to public safety;

1 “(6) certify in writing to State and local elected
2 officials that all persons charged with the care of the
3 unaccompanied alien children to be housed at the fa-
4 cility will have undergone background checks and
5 will have been determined not to present a risk to
6 such unaccompanied alien children;

7 “(7) provide for a 30-day period, beginning on
8 the date that the Secretary notifies the State and
9 local elected officials, during which such State and
10 local officials may review the proposed contract or
11 grant, along with the assessment and certifications
12 required by paragraphs (2) through (6);

13 “(8) conduct a public hearing in the locality in
14 which the facility in the grant or contract has been
15 proposed, not later than 10 days after the conclusion
16 of the 30-day comment period described in para-
17 graph (7), for which—

18 “(A) advance public notice has been pro-
19 vided, in mediums available for general circula-
20 tion in the proposed jurisdiction, at least 10
21 days before the date of the hearing; and

22 “(B) a representative of the Department of
23 Health and Human Services is in attendance in
24 an official capacity for the purpose of receiving
25 public comments;

1 “(9) provide for a 7-day period, beginning on
2 the date that the hearing under paragraph (8) con-
3 cludes, during which the Governor of the State, may
4 submit to the Secretary an affirmation of the grant
5 or contract, which, if not timely submitted, shall pre-
6 clude the Secretary from awarding the grant or con-
7 tract; and

8 “(10) provide for a 7-day period, beginning on
9 the date that the period under paragraph (9) con-
10 cludes, during which a majority of the governing
11 body of the county in which the facility in the grant
12 or contract has been proposed may submit to the
13 Secretary an affirmation of the grant or contract,
14 which, if not timely submitted, shall preclude the
15 Secretary from awarding the grant or contract.”.

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