

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5837

To amend the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act to modify provisions relating to the household water well system grant program.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 16, 2018

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama (for herself and Mr. ROGERS of Alabama) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

A BILL

To amend the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act to modify provisions relating to the household water well system grant program.

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 “Rural Septic Tank Ac-
5 cess Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. HOUSEHOLD WATER WELL SYSTEM GRANT PRO-**
7 **GRAM MODIFICATIONS.**

8 Section 306E of the Consolidated Farm and Rural
9 Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1926e) is amended—

1 (1) by striking the section designation and
2 heading and inserting the following:

3 **“SEC. 306E. GRANTS TO NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS FOR**
4 **CONSTRUCTION, REFURBISHING, AND SERV-**
5 **ICING OF INDIVIDUALLY OWNED HOUSE-**
6 **HOLD WATER WELL SYSTEMS AND HOUSE-**
7 **HOLD DECENTRALIZED WASTEWATER SYS-**
8 **TEMS IN RURAL AREAS FOR INDIVIDUALS**
9 **WITH LOW OR MODERATE INCOME.”;**

10 (2) in subsection (a), by striking “100 percent”
11 and inserting “60 percent”;

12 (3) in subsection (b)—

13 (A) in paragraph (1)—

14 (i) by striking “loans” and inserting
15 “subgrants”; and

16 (ii) by inserting “or household decen-
17 tralized wastewater systems” after “water
18 well systems”; and

19 (B) by striking paragraph (2) and insert-
20 ing the following:

21 “(2) SUBGRANTS.—

22 “(A) AMOUNTS.—The amount of a
23 subgrant provided to an eligible individual using
24 grant funds under this section shall not exceed
25 \$20,000 for each water well system or decen-

1 tralized wastewater system described in para-
2 graph (1).

3 “(B) USE IN CASES OF WELL WATER CON-
4 TAMINATION.—In the event of well water con-
5 tamination, the Secretary shall allow the use of
6 a subgrant provided using grant funds under
7 this section for the installation of water treat-
8 ment measures as needed beyond the point of
9 entry, with or without the installation of new
10 well equipment.”;

11 (4) in subsection (c), by striking “productive
12 use of individually-owned household water well sys-
13 tems” and inserting “effective use of individually
14 owned household water well systems or household
15 decentralized wastewater systems”; and

16 (5) in subsection (d), by striking “\$5,000,000
17 for each of fiscal years 2014 through 2018” and in-
18 serting “\$100,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2019
19 through 2023”.

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