

**Suspend the Rules and Pass the Bill, H. R. 4300, With an
Amendment**

**(The amendment strikes all after the enacting clause and inserts a
complete substitute text)**

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4300

To provide Federal housing assistance on behalf of youths who are aging
out of foster care, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 12, 2019

Ms. DEAN (for herself, Mr. TURNER, Ms. BASS, and Mr. STIVERS) introduced
the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Financial Services

A BILL

To provide Federal housing assistance on behalf of youths
who are aging out of foster care, and for other purposes.

- 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 “Fostering Stable Hous-
- 5 ing Opportunities Act of 2019”.

1 SEC. 2. DEFINITION OF FAMILY.

2 Subparagraph (A) of section 3(b)(3) of the United
3 States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437a(b)(3)(A))
4 is amended—

5 (1) in the first sentence—

6 (A) by striking “(v)” and inserting “(vi)”;

7 and

8 (B) by inserting after “tenant family,” the
9 following: “(v) a youth described in section
10 8(x)(2)(B),”; and

11 (2) in the second sentence, by inserting “or
12 (vi)” after “clause (v)”.

**13 SEC. 3. HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHERS FOR FOSTERING STA-
14 BLE HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES.**

15 (a) ASSISTANCE FOR YOUTH AGING OUT OF FOSTER
16 CARE.—Section 8(x) of the United States Housing Act of
17 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(x)) is amended—

18 (1) in paragraph (2), by inserting “subject to
19 paragraph (5),” after “(B)”;

20 (2) in paragraph (3)—

21 (A) by striking “(3) ALLOCATION.—The”
22 and inserting the following:

23 “(3) ALLOCATION.—

24 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The”; and

25 (B) by adding at the end the following new
26 subparagraph:

1 “(B) ASSISTANCE FOR YOUTH AGING OUT
2 OF FOSTER CARE.—Notwithstanding any other
3 provision of law, the Secretary shall, subject
4 only to the availability of funds, allocate such
5 assistance to any public housing agencies that
6 (i) administer assistance pursuant to paragraph
7 (2)(B), or seek to administer such assistance,
8 consistent with procedures established by the
9 Secretary, (ii) have requested such assistance so
10 that they may provide timely assistance to eligi-
11 ble youth, and (iii) have submitted to the Sec-
12 retary a statement describing how the agency
13 will connect assisted youths with local commu-
14 nity resources and self-sufficiency services, to
15 the extent they are available, and obtain refer-
16 rals from public child welfare agencies regard-
17 ing youths in foster care who become eligible
18 for such assistance.”;

19 (3) by redesignating paragraph (5) as para-
20 graph (6); and

21 (4) by inserting after paragraph (4) the fol-
22 lowing new paragraph:

23 “(5) REQUIREMENTS FOR ASSISTANCE FOR
24 YOUTH AGING OUT OF FOSTER CARE.—Assistance
25 provided under this subsection for an eligible youth

1 pursuant to paragraph (2)(B) shall be subject to the
2 following requirements:

3 “(A) REQUIREMENTS TO EXTEND ASSIST-
4 ANCE.—

5 “(i) PARTICIPATION IN FAMILY SELF-
6 SUFFICIENCY.—In the case of a public
7 housing agency that is providing such as-
8 sistance under this subsection on behalf of
9 an eligible youth and that is carrying out
10 a family self-sufficiency program under
11 section 23, the agency shall, subject only
12 to the availability of such assistance, ex-
13 tend the provision of such assistance for
14 up to 24 months beyond the period re-
15 ferred to in paragraph (2)(B), but only
16 during such period that the youth is in
17 compliance with the terms and conditions
18 applicable under section 23 and the regula-
19 tions implementing such section to a per-
20 son participating in a family self-suffi-
21 ciency program.

22 “(ii) EDUCATION, WORKFORCE DE-
23 VELOPMENT, OR EMPLOYMENT.—In the
24 case of a public housing agency that is
25 providing such assistance under this sub-

1 section on behalf of an eligible youth and
2 that is not carrying out a family self-suffi-
3 ciency program under section 23, or is car-
4 rying out such a program in which the
5 youth has been unable to enroll, the agency
6 shall, subject only to the availability of
7 such assistance, extend the provision of
8 such assistance for two successive 12-
9 month periods, after the period referred to
10 in paragraph (2)(B), but only if for not
11 less than 9 months of the 12-month period
12 preceding each such extension the youth
13 was—

14 “(I) engaged in obtaining a rec-
15 ognized postsecondary credential or a

16 secondary school diploma or its recog-
17 nized equivalent;

18 “(II) enrolled in an institution of
19 higher education, as such term is de-
20 fined in section 101(a) of the Higher
21 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
22 1001(a)) and including the institu-
23 tions described in subparagraphs (A)
24 and (B) of section 102(a)(1) of such
25 Act (20 U.S.C. 1002(a)(1)); or

1 “(III) participating in a career
2 pathway, as such term is defined in
3 section 3 of the Workforce Innovation
4 and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C.
5 3102).

6 Notwithstanding any other provision of
7 this clause, a public housing agency shall
8 consider employment as satisfying the re-
9 quirements under this subparagraph.

10 “(iii) EXCEPTIONS.—Notwithstanding
11 clauses (i) and (ii), a public housing agen-
12 cy that is providing such assistance under
13 this subsection on behalf of an eligible
14 youth shall extend the provision of such as-
15 sistance for up to 24 months beyond the
16 period referred to in paragraph (2)(B),
17 and clauses (i) and (ii) of this subpara-
18 graph shall not apply, if the eligible youth
19 certifies that he or she is—

20 “(I) a parent or other household
21 member responsible for the care of a
22 dependent child under the age of 6 or
23 for the care of an incapacitated per-
24 son;

1 “(II) a person who is regularly
2 and actively participating in a drug
3 addiction or alcohol treatment and re-
4 habilitation program; or

5 “(III) a person who is incapable
6 of complying with the requirement
7 under clause (i) or (ii), as applicable,
8 due to a documented medical condi-
9 tion.

10 “(iv) VERIFICATION OF COMPLI-
11 ANCE.—The Secretary shall require the
12 public housing agency to verify compliance
13 with the requirements under this subparagraph
14 by each eligible youth on whose be-
15 half the agency provides such assistance
16 under this subsection on an annual basis
17 in conjunction with reviews of income for
18 purposes of determining income eligibility
19 for such assistance.

20 “(B) SUPPORTIVE SERVICES.—

21 “(i) ELIGIBILITY.—Each eligible
22 youth on whose behalf such assistance
23 under this subsection is provided shall be
24 eligible for any supportive services (as such
25 term is defined in section 103 of the Work-

1 force Innovation and Opportunity Act (29
2 U.S.C. 3102)) made available, in connec-
3 tion with any housing assistance program
4 of the agency, by or through the public
5 housing agency providing such assistance.

6 “(ii) INFORMATION.—Upon the initial
7 provision of such assistance under this
8 subsection on behalf of any eligible youth,
9 the public housing agency shall inform
10 such eligible youth of the existence of any
11 programs or services referred to in clause
12 (i) and of their eligibility for such pro-
13 grams and services.

“(C) APPLICABILITY TO MOVING TO WORK AGENCIES.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the requirements of this paragraph shall apply to assistance under this subsection pursuant to paragraph (2)(B) made available by each public housing agency participating in the Moving to Work Program under section 204 of the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1996 (42 U.S.C. 1437f note), except that in lieu of compliance with clause (i) or (ii) of subparagraph

1 (A) of this paragraph, such an agency may
2 comply with the requirements under such
3 clauses by complying with such terms, condi-
4 tions, and requirements as may be established
5 by the agency for persons on whose behalf such
6 rental assistance under this subsection is pro-
7 vided.

8 “(D) TERMINATION OF VOUCHERS UPON
9 TURN-OVER.—A public housing agency shall not
10 reissue any such assistance made available from
11 appropriated funds when assistance for the
12 youth initially assisted is terminated, unless
13 specifically authorized by the Secretary.

14 “(E) REPORTS.—

15 “(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary
16 shall require each public housing agency
17 that provides such assistance under this
18 subsection in any fiscal year to submit a
19 report to the Secretary for such fiscal year
20 that—

21 “(I) specifies the number of per-
22 sons on whose behalf such assistance
23 under this subsection was provided
24 during such fiscal year;

1 “(II) specifies the number of per-
2 sons who applied during such fiscal
3 year for such assistance under this
4 subsection, but were not provided
5 such assistance, and provides a brief
6 identification in each instance of the
7 reason why the public housing agency
8 was unable to award such assistance;
9 and

10 “(III) describes how the public
11 housing agency communicated or col-
12 laborated with public child welfare
13 agencies to collect such data.

14 “(ii) INFORMATION COLLECTIONS.—
15 The Secretary shall, to the greatest extent
16 possible, utilize existing information collec-
17 tions, including the voucher management
18 system (VMS), the Inventory Management
19 System/PIH Information Center (IMS/
20 PIC), or the successors of those systems,
21 to collect information required under this
22 subparagraph.

23 “(F) CONSULTATION.—The Secretary shall
24 consult with the Secretary of Health and
25 Human Services to provide such information

1 and guidance to the Secretary of Health and
2 Human Services as may be necessary to facilitate
3 such Secretary in informing States and
4 public child welfare agencies on how to correctly
5 and efficiently implement and comply with the
6 requirements of this subsection relating to assistance
7 provided pursuant to paragraph
8 (2)(B).”.

9 (b) COORDINATION BETWEEN PHAs AND PUBLIC
10 CHILD WELFARE AGENCIES.—

11 (1) APPLICABILITY TO FOSTERING STABLE
12 HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM.—Subparagraph
13 (A) of section 8(x)(4) of the United States Housing
14 Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(x)(4)(A)) is amended
15 by inserting before the semicolon at the end the following:
16 “and establishing a point of contact at public
17 housing agencies to ensure that public housing agencies
18 receive appropriate referrals regarding eligible
19 recipients”.

20 (c) PHA ADMINISTRATIVE FEES.—Subsection (q) of
21 section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42
22 U.S.C. 1437f(q)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

24 “(5) SUPPLEMENTS FOR ADMINISTERING AS-
25 SISTANCE FOR YOUTH AGING OUT OF FOSTER

1 CARE.—The Secretary may provide supplemental
2 fees under this subsection to the public housing
3 agency for the cost of administering any assistance
4 for foster youth under subsection (x)(2)(B), in an
5 amount determined by the Secretary, but only if the
6 agency waives for such eligible youth receiving as-
7 sistance any residency requirement that it has other-
8 wise established pursuant to subsection
9 (r)(1)(B)(i).”.

10 SEC. 4. EXCEPTIONS TO LIMITATIONS FOR PROJECT-BASED
11 VOUCHER ASSISTANCE.

12 (a) PERCENTAGE LIMITATION.—The first sentence of
13 clause (ii) of section 8(o)(13)(B) of the United States
14 Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)(13)(B)(ii)) is
15 amended by inserting before “or that” the following: “that
16 house eligible youths receiving assistance pursuant to sub-
17 section (x)(2)(B).”.

18 (b) INCOME-MIXING REQUIREMENT.—Subclause (I)
19 of section 8(o)(13)(D)(ii) of the United States Housing
20 Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)(13)(D)(ii)(I)) is amend-
21 ed by inserting after “elderly families” the following: “,
22 to eligible youths receiving assistance pursuant to sub-
23 section (x)(2)(B).”.

1 SEC. 5. APPLICABILITY.

2 The amendments made by this Act shall not apply
3 to housing choice voucher assistance made available pur-
4 suant to section 8(x) of the United States Housing Act
5 of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(x)) that is in use on behalf of
6 an assisted family as of the date of the enactment of this
7 Act.