

Suspend the Rules and Pass the Bill, H.R. 6531, With an Amendment

(The amendment strikes all after the enacting clause and inserts a new text)

117TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 6531

To provide an increased allocation of funding under certain programs for assistance in areas of persistent poverty, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 1, 2022

Mr. CLYBURN (for himself and Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Reform

A BILL

To provide an increased allocation of funding under certain programs for assistance in areas of persistent poverty, 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 “Targeting Resources
5 to Communities in Need Act of 2022”.

1 **SEC. 2. INCREASING SHARE OF FEDERAL RESOURCES TO**
2 **AREAS OF PERSISTENT POVERTY AND OTHER**
3 **HIGH-POVERTY AREAS.**

4 (a) INCREASING SHARE OF FEDERAL RESOURCES.—

5 (1) GUIDANCE AND MEASURES TO INCREASE
6 FEDERAL INVESTMENTS.—Not later than 1 year
7 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director,
8 in consultation with Federal agencies, shall imple-
9 ment guidance to increase the share of Federal in-
10 vestments targeted to—

11 (A) areas of persistent poverty; and

12 (B) other areas of high and persistent pov-
13 erty that the Director, in consultation with
14 Federal agencies, determines to be appropriate.

15 (2) GUIDANCE FOR AGENCIES.—Not later than
16 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the
17 Director shall issue guidance to Federal agencies
18 identifying—

19 (A) the scope and type of programs subject
20 to the guidance and measures required by para-
21 graph (1);

22 (B) the share of Federal investments to be
23 targeted to the areas described under para-
24 graph (1);

1 (C) the manner in which Federal invest-
2 ments are to be targeted to the areas described
3 under paragraph (1); and

4 (D) measures to track the Federal invest-
5 ments targeted to the areas described under
6 paragraph (1) over time.

7 (3) INVESTMENT AMOUNT.—In developing the
8 guidance and measures under paragraph (1), the Di-
9 rector shall include a minimum goal that Federal in-
10 vestments targeted to areas of persistent poverty or
11 other areas with high and persistent poverty be in
12 an amount that is greater than the amount that is
13 proportional to the population of such areas in the
14 United States relative to the population of the
15 United States as a whole.

16 (4) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—The Director, in
17 consultation with Federal agencies, shall submit
18 each fiscal year to the appropriate committees of
19 Congress a report that includes—

20 (A) a list of the programs, by agency,
21 under which the amount of Federal funds tar-
22 geted to areas described under paragraph (1)
23 were increased in the previous fiscal year, in ac-
24 cordance with such paragraph; and

1 (B) for each program listed under sub-
2 paragraph (A)—

3 (i) the amount of funds that were tar-
4 geted under the program to an area of per-
5 sistent poverty or other area with high and
6 persistent poverty during the previous fis-
7 cal year;

8 (ii) the percent change from the fiscal
9 year before the previous fiscal year in the
10 amount of funds that were targeted under
11 the program toward an area of persistent
12 poverty or other area with high and per-
13 sistent poverty; and

14 (iii) to the extent practicable, an as-
15 sessment of the economic impact of the
16 program on the area, including data on the
17 categories of individuals impacted by the
18 targeting of funds to such areas under the
19 program, disaggregated by household in-
20 come, race, gender, age, national origin,
21 disability status, and whether the individ-
22 uals live in an urban area, suburban area,
23 or rural area.

24 (b) PUBLICATION OF LIST OF AREAS OF PERSISTENT
25 POVERTY.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 60 days after
2 the date of enactment of this Act, the Bureau of the
3 Census shall publish a list of all areas of persistent
4 poverty.

5 (2) UPDATE.—The Bureau of the Census shall
6 update annually the list published under paragraph
7 (1).

8 (c) GAO REPORTS.—

9 (1) INITIAL REPORT.—Not later than two years
10 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comp-
11 troller General of the United States shall provide to
12 the appropriate committees of Congress a report on
13 the effectiveness of the measures implemented under
14 subsection (a), including an assessment regarding
15 the impact of increasing Federal investments spent
16 in areas of persistent poverty and other areas with
17 high and persistent poverty.

18 (2) SUBSEQUENT REPORTS.—Not later than 10
19 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the
20 Comptroller General of the United States shall pro-
21 vide at least two subsequent reports (as described in
22 paragraph (1)) to the appropriate committees of
23 Congress.

24 (d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
25 authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 2023,

1 \$5,000,000 for salaries and expenses (including for enter-
2 ing contracts with non-Federal persons) to carry out this
3 Act.

4 (e) DEFINITIONS.—In this Act:

5 (1) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CON-
6 GRESS.—The term “appropriate committees of Con-
7 gress” means—

8 (A) the Committee on Appropriations, the
9 Committee on the Budget, the Committee on
10 Commerce, Science, and Transportation, and
11 the Committee on Homeland Security and Gov-
12 ernmental Affairs of the Senate;

13 (B) the Committee on Appropriations, the
14 Committee on the Budget, the Committee on
15 Energy and Commerce, the Committee on
16 Transportation and Infrastructure, and the
17 Committee on Oversight and Reform of the
18 House of Representatives; and

19 (C) any other committee of Congress that
20 has jurisdiction over an agency with a role de-
21 veloping or implementing measures under sub-
22 section (a).

23 (2) AREA OF PERSISTENT POVERTY.—The term
24 “area of persistent poverty” means an area that is

1 a high-poverty census tract or a persistent poverty
2 county.

3 (3) DIRECTOR.—The term “Director” means
4 the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.
5 et.

6 (4) HIGH-POVERTY CENSUS TRACT.—The term
7 “high-poverty census tract” means a census tract
8 that has a poverty rate of not less than 20 percent
9 in the most recent American Community Survey 5-
10 year data published by the Bureau of the Census.

11 (5) PERSISTENT POVERTY COUNTY.—The term
12 “persistent poverty county” means—

13 (A) a county, parish, or other equivalent
14 county division (as determined by the Bureau of
15 the Census) with a poverty rate of not less than
16 20 percent in the Small Area Income and Pov-
17 erty Estimates by the Bureau of the Census in
18 at least 25 of the last 30 years, including the
19 most recent year for which the estimates are
20 available; or

21 (B) for areas where Small Area Income
22 and Poverty Estimates are not available, a
23 county, parish, or equivalent level of geography,
24 with a poverty rate of not less than 20 percent
25 in at least 25 of the last 30 years, including the

1 most recent year for which the estimates are
2 available, as determined by the Bureau of the
3 Census.