

## Union Calendar No. 24

110<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 1227

[Report No. 110–51, Part I]

To assist in the provision of affordable housing to low-income families affected by Hurricane Katrina.

---

### IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 28, 2007

Ms. WATERS (for herself and Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

MARCH 16, 2007

Reported from the Committee on Financial Services with an amendment

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italic*]

MARCH 16, 2007

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure discharged; committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on February 28, 2007]

---

## A BILL

To assist in the provision of affordable housing to low-income families affected by Hurricane Katrina.

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 “Gulf Coast Hurricane*  
5 *Housing Recovery Act of 2007”.*

6 **TITLE I—COMMUNITY**  
7 **DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANTS**

8 **SEC. 101. FLEXIBILITY OF FEDERAL FUNDS FOR ROAD**  
9 **HOME PROGRAM.**

10 *(a) FLEXIBILITY OF FUNDS.—Subject to subsection (b)*  
11 *and notwithstanding any other provision of law, of the*  
12 *amounts previously made available to the State of Lou-*  
13 *isiana under the Hazard Mitigation Grants program of the*  
14 *Federal Emergency Management Agency, \$1,175,000,000 of*  
15 *such unexpended amounts shall be made available as pro-*  
16 *vided in this section. The amount specified in subsection*  
17 *(c) shall be available as provided in such subsection and*  
18 *the remainder shall be considered to have been made avail-*  
19 *able to such State under the terms of the heading relating*  
20 *to “Department of Housing and Urban Development—*  
21 *Community Planning and Development—Community De-*  
22 *velopment Fund” in chapter 9 of title II of Public Law*  
23 *109–234 (120 Stat. 472) and approved by the Secretary of*  
24 *Housing and Urban Development for use under the Road*  
25 *Home Program of such State.*

1       **(b) MONTHLY REPORTS ON PROGRAM.—**

2               **(1) IN GENERAL.—***The State of Louisiana shall*  
3 *submit reports under this subsection regarding the*  
4 *Road Home Program to the Committee on Financial*  
5 *Services of the House of Representatives and the Com-*  
6 *mittee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of*  
7 *the Senate. Each report under this subsection shall*  
8 *describe and analyze the implementation, status, and*  
9 *effectiveness of the Road Home Program and shall in-*  
10 *clude the following information, for the applicable re-*  
11 *porting period and for the entire period of the pro-*  
12 *gram:*

13                       **(A)** *The number of applications submitted*  
14 *for assistance under the program.*

15                       **(B)** *The number of households for which as-*  
16 *sistance has been provided under the program.*

17                       **(C)** *The average amount of assistance pro-*  
18 *vided for each household under the program and*  
19 *the total amount of assistance provided under*  
20 *the program.*

21                       **(D)** *The number of personnel involved in*  
22 *executing all aspects of the program.*

23                       **(E)** *Actions taken to improve the program*  
24 *and recommendations for further such improve-*  
25 *ments.*

1           (2) *REPORTING PERIODS.*—*The first report*  
2 *under this subsection shall be submitted not later than*  
3 *the expiration of the 30-day period that begins upon*  
4 *the date of the enactment of this Act and reports shall*  
5 *be submitted not later than the expiration of each suc-*  
6 *cessive 30-day period thereafter during the term of the*  
7 *program.*

8           (c) *NEW ORLEANS REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY*  
9 *PILOT PROGRAM.*—

10           (1) *AVAILABILITY OF AMOUNTS.*—*Of the unex-*  
11 *pendent amounts referred to in subsection (a), the Sec-*  
12 *retary of Housing and Urban Development shall*  
13 *make \$15,000,000 available to the New Orleans Rede-*  
14 *velopment Authority (in this subsection referred to as*  
15 *the “Redevelopment Authority”), subject to paragraph*  
16 *(3), only for use to carry out the pilot program under*  
17 *this subsection.*

18           (2) *PURPOSE.*—*The pilot program under this*  
19 *subsection shall fund, through the combination of*  
20 *amounts provided under this subsection with public*  
21 *and private capital from other sources, the purchase*  
22 *or costs associated with the acquisition of individual*  
23 *parcels of land in New Orleans, Louisiana, by the Re-*  
24 *development Authority to be aggregated, assembled,*  
25 *and sold for the purpose of development by private*

1 *entities only in accordance with, and subject to, the*  
2 *Orleans Parish Recovery Plan, developed and adopted*  
3 *by the City of New Orleans.*

4 (3) *CERTIFICATIONS.—The Secretary of Housing*  
5 *and Urban Development may make amounts avail-*  
6 *able pursuant to paragraph (1) to the Redevelopment*  
7 *Authority only upon the submission to the Secretary*  
8 *of certifications, sufficient in the determination of the*  
9 *Secretary to ensure that the Redevelopment Author-*  
10 *ity—*

11 (A) *has the authority to purchase land for*  
12 *resale for the purpose of development in accord-*  
13 *ance with the pilot program under this sub-*  
14 *section;*

15 (B) *has bonding authority (either on its*  
16 *own or through a State bonding agency) or has*  
17 *credit enhancements sufficient to support public/*  
18 *private financing to acquire land for the pur-*  
19 *poses of the pilot program under this subsection;*

20 (C) *has the authority and capacity to en-*  
21 *sure clean title to land sold under the pilot pro-*  
22 *gram and to indemnify against environmental*  
23 *and other liabilities;*

24 (D) *will provide a first right to purchase*  
25 *any land acquired by the Redevelopment Author-*

1            *ity to the seller who sold the land to the Redevel-*  
2            *opment Authority; and*

3            *(E) has in place sufficient internal controls*  
4            *to ensure that funds made available under this*  
5            *subsection may not be used to fund salaries or*  
6            *other administrative costs of the employees of the*  
7            *Redevelopment Authority.*

8            *(4) DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS.—In car-*  
9            *rying out the pilot program under this subsection, the*  
10           *Redevelopment Authority shall—*

11           *(A) sell land acquired under the pilot pro-*  
12           *gram only as provided in paragraph (2);*

13           *(B) use any proceeds from the sale of such*  
14           *land to replenish funds available for use under*  
15           *the pilot program for the purpose of acquiring*  
16           *new parcels of land or to repay any private fi-*  
17           *nancing for such purchases;*

18           *(C) sell land only—*

19           *(i) to purchasers who agree to develop*  
20           *such sites for sale to the public; or*

21           *(ii) to purchasers pursuant to para-*  
22           *graph (3)(D); and*

23           *(D) in the case of a purchaser of land pur-*  
24           *suant to paragraph (3)(D), ensure that the devel-*  
25           *oper of any adjacent parcels sold by the Redevel-*

1            *opment Authority makes an offer to the pur-*  
2            *chaser to develop such land for a fee.*

3            (5) *INAPPLICABILITY OF STAFFORD ACT LIMITA-*  
4            *TIONS.—Any requirements or limitations under or*  
5            *pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief*  
6            *and Emergency Assistance Act relating to use of*  
7            *properties acquired with amounts made available*  
8            *under such Act for certain purposes, restricting devel-*  
9            *opment of such properties, or limiting subsequent*  
10           *alienation of such properties shall not apply to*  
11           *amounts provided under this subsection or properties*  
12           *acquired under the pilot program with such amounts.*

13           (6) *GAO STUDY AND REPORT.—Upon the expira-*  
14           *tion of the 2-year period beginning on the date of the*  
15           *enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the*  
16           *United States shall conduct a study of the pilot pro-*  
17           *gram carried out under this subsection to determine*  
18           *the effectiveness and limitations of, and potential im-*  
19           *provements for, such program. Not later than 90 days*  
20           *after the expiration of such period, the Comptroller*  
21           *General shall submit a report to the Committee on Fi-*  
22           *nancial Services of the House of Representatives and*  
23           *the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Af-*  
24           *airs of the Senate regarding the results of the study.*

25           (d) *ONGOING GAO REPORTS ON USE OF AMOUNTS.—*

1           (1) *QUARTERLY REPORTS.*—During the period  
2           that amounts made available under subsection (a) are  
3           being expended under the Road Home Program of the  
4           Louisiana Recovery Authority, the Comptroller Gen-  
5           eral of the United States shall submit reports on a  
6           quarterly basis to the Committee on Financial Serv-  
7           ices of the House of Representatives and the Com-  
8           mittee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of  
9           the Senate, and to the Secretary of Housing and  
10          Urban Development. Such reports shall describe and  
11          account for the use of all such amounts expended dur-  
12          ing the applicable quarterly period and identify any  
13          waste, fraud, or abuse involved in the use of such  
14          amounts.

15          (2) *MONITORING.*—The Comptroller General  
16          shall monitor the total amount made available under  
17          subsection (a) that has been expended by such Author-  
18          ity and, pursuant to such monitoring—

19                 (A) upon determining that at least two per-  
20                 cent of such amount has been expended, shall in-  
21                 clude in the first quarterly report thereafter a  
22                 written determination of such expenditure; and

23                 (B) upon determining, at any time after the  
24                 determination under subparagraph (A), that the  
25                 portion of such total amount expended at such



1           *time that was subject to waste, fraud, or abuse*  
 2           *exceeds 10 percent, shall include in the first*  
 3           *quarterly report thereafter a certification to that*  
 4           *effect.*

5           (3) *ACTIONS IN RESPONSE TO WASTE, FRAUD,*  
 6           *AND ABUSE.—If at any time the Comptroller General*  
 7           *submits a report under paragraph (1) that includes*  
 8           *a certification under paragraph (2)(B)—*

9                   (A) *the Committees referred to paragraph*  
 10            (1) *shall each hold hearings within 60 days to*  
 11            *identify the reasons for such waste, fraud, and*  
 12            *abuse; and*

13                   (B) *the Comptroller General shall submit a*  
 14            *report to such Committees and the Secretary of*  
 15            *Housing and Urban Development within 90*  
 16            *days recommending actions to be taken to pre-*  
 17            *vent further waste fraud and abuse in expendi-*  
 18            *ture of such amounts.*

19 **SEC. 102. TREATMENT OF BENEFITS FROM OTHER PRO-**  
 20 **GRAMS UNDER ROAD HOME PROGRAM.**

21           *Notwithstanding any other provision of law, to the ex-*  
 22            *tent that amounts made available under the heading “De-*  
 23            *partment of Housing and Urban Development-Community*  
 24            *Planning and Development—Community Development*  
 25            *Fund” in chapter 9 of title I of division B of Public Law*

1 109–148 (119 Stat. 2779), under such heading in chapter  
2 9 of title II of Public Law 109–234 (120 Stat. 472), and  
3 under section 101 of this title, are used by the Louisiana  
4 Recovery Authority under the Road Home program, the  
5 procedures preventing duplication of benefits established  
6 pursuant to the penultimate proviso under such heading in  
7 Public Law 109–148 (119 Stat. 2781) and the 15th proviso  
8 under such heading in Public Law 109–234 (120 Stat. 473)  
9 shall not apply with respect to any benefits received from  
10 hazard insurance, flood insurance, or disaster payments  
11 from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, except  
12 to the extent that the inapplicability of such procedures  
13 would result in a windfall gain under the Road Home Pro-  
14 gram to any person.

15 **SEC. 103. ELIMINATION OF PROHIBITION OF USE FOR**  
16 **MATCH REQUIREMENT.**

17 (a) *IN GENERAL.*—Notwithstanding any other provi-  
18 sion of law, any amounts made available before the date  
19 of the enactment of this Act for activities under the commu-  
20 nity development block grant program under title I of the  
21 Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42  
22 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.) for expenses related to disaster relief,  
23 long-term recovery, and restoration of infrastructure in the  
24 areas impacted or distressed by the consequences of Hurri-  
25 cane Katrina, Rita, or Wilma in States for which the Presi-

1 *dent declared a major disaster, or made available before*  
2 *such date of enactment for such activities for such expenses*  
3 *in the areas impacted or distressed by the consequences of*  
4 *Hurricane Dennis, may be used by a State or locality as*  
5 *a matching requirement, share, or contribution for any*  
6 *other Federal program.*

7       (b) *EFFICIENT ENVIRONMENT REVIEW.—Notwith-*  
8 *standing any other provision of law, when a State, unit*  
9 *of general local government, or Indian tribe, or Department*  
10 *of Hawaiian Home Lands uses amounts referred to in sub-*  
11 *section (a), the release of which would otherwise be subject*  
12 *to environmental reviews under the procedures authorized*  
13 *under section 104(g) of the Housing and Community Devel-*  
14 *opment Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5304(g)), to match or sup-*  
15 *plement the federal assistance provided under sections 402,*  
16 *403, 406, 407, or 502 of Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief*  
17 *and Emergency Assistance Act, and the Director of the Fed-*  
18 *eral Emergency Management Agency conducts an environ-*  
19 *mental review that encompasses all activities assisted by*  
20 *such matching funds, the Director’s environmental review*  
21 *shall satisfy all of the environmental responsibilities that*  
22 *would otherwise be assumed by the State, unit of general*  
23 *local government, Indian tribe, or Department of Hawaiian*  
24 *Home Lands under such section 104(g), and the require-*  
25 *ments and procedures of such provision, including assump-*

1 *tion of environmental review responsibilities and submis-*  
2 *sion and approval of a request for release of funds and cer-*  
3 *tification, shall be inapplicable, if, prior to its commitment*  
4 *of any matching funds for such activities, the State, unit*  
5 *of general local government, Indian tribe, or Department*  
6 *of Hawaiian Home Lands notifies the Director and the Sec-*  
7 *retary of Housing and Urban Development that it elects*  
8 *to defer to the Director's environmental review responsibil-*  
9 *ities. If a deferral is elected under this subsection, the Direc-*  
10 *tor shall be the responsible party for any liability under*  
11 *the applicable law if the environmental review as described*  
12 *in the preceding sentence is deficient in any manner.*

13 **SEC. 104. REIMBURSEMENT OF CDBG AMOUNTS USED FOR**  
14 **RENTAL HOUSING ASSISTANCE.**

15 *There are authorized to be appropriated, from any*  
16 *amounts made available before the date of the enactment*  
17 *of this Act under any provision of law to the Federal Emer-*  
18 *gency Management Agency for disaster relief under the Rob-*  
19 *ert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance*  
20 *Act relating to the consequences of Hurricane Katrina,*  
21 *Rita, or Wilma that remain unobligated, and from any*  
22 *amounts made available before such date of enactment*  
23 *under any provision of law to such Agency for such disaster*  
24 *relief relating to the consequences of Hurricane Dennis that*  
25 *remain unobligated, such sums as may be necessary for the*

1 *Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to provide*  
2 *assistance under title I of the Housing and Community De-*  
3 *velopment Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.) to metropoli-*  
4 *tan cities and urban counties that used amounts previously*  
5 *made available under such title to provide rental housing*  
6 *assistance for families residing in such city or county pur-*  
7 *suant to evacuation from their previous residences because*  
8 *of such hurricanes in the amount necessary to provide each*  
9 *such city and county with an amount equal to the aggregate*  
10 *amount of previous assistance under such title so used.*

11 ***TITLE II—PUBLIC HOUSING***

12 ***SEC. 201. SURVEY OF PUBLIC HOUSING RESIDENTS.***

13 *(a) SURVEY.—The Secretary of Housing and Urban*  
14 *Development shall provide for the conducting of a survey,*  
15 *using appropriate scientific research methods, by an inde-*  
16 *pendent entity or organization, to determine, of the house-*  
17 *holds who as of August 28, 2005, resided in public housing*  
18 *(as such term is defined in section 3(b) of the United States*  
19 *Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437a(b))) operated or ad-*  
20 *ministered by the Housing Authority of New Orleans, in*  
21 *Louisiana—*

22 *(1) which and how many such households intend*  
23 *to return to residences in dwelling units described in*  
24 *section 202(d) of this Act, when presented with the*  
25 *options of—*

1           (A) returning to residence in a repaired  
2           public housing or comparable dwelling unit in  
3           New Orleans; or

4           (B) continuing to receive rental housing as-  
5           sistance from the Federal Government; and

6           (2) when such households intend to return.

7           (b) *PARTICIPATION OF RESIDENTS.*—The Secretary  
8           shall solicit recommendations from resident councils and  
9           residents of public housing operated or administered by  
10          such Housing Authority in designing and conducting the  
11          survey under subsection (a).

12          (c) *PROPOSED SURVEY DOCUMENT.*—The Secretary  
13          shall submit the full research design of the proposed docu-  
14          ment to be used in conducting the survey to the Committee  
15          on Financial Services of the House of Representatives and  
16          the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs  
17          of the Senate not less than 10 business days before the com-  
18          mencement of such survey.

19          (d) *REPORT.*—The Secretary shall submit a report the  
20          Committees referred to in subsection (c) detailing the results  
21          of the survey conducted under subsection (a) not later than  
22          60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

1 **SEC. 202. RIGHT OF RETURN FOR PREVIOUS RESIDENTS OF**  
2 **PUBLIC HOUSING.**

3 (a) *REQUIREMENT TO PROVIDE DWELLING UNITS.*—  
4 *Not later than August 1, 2007, the Housing Authority of*  
5 *New Orleans shall make available for occupancy, subject to*  
6 *subsection (b), a number of dwelling units (including those*  
7 *currently occupied) described in subsection (d) that is not*  
8 *less than the greater of—*

9 (1) 3,000; or

10 (2) *the number of households who have indicated,*  
11 *in the survey conducted pursuant to section 201, that*  
12 *they intend to return to residence in public housing*  
13 *operated or administered by such public housing*  
14 *agency.*

15 (b) *RIGHT OF RETURN.*—

16 (1) *IN GENERAL.*—*Subject only to subsection (c),*  
17 *the Housing Authority of New Orleans shall make*  
18 *available, upon the request of any household who, as*  
19 *of August 28, 2005, was a tenant of public housing*  
20 *operated or administered by such public housing*  
21 *agency, occupancy for such household in a dwelling*  
22 *unit provided pursuant to subsection (a). As a condi-*  
23 *tion of exercising a right under this paragraph to oc-*  
24 *cupancy in such a dwelling unit, not later than Au-*  
25 *gust 1, 2007, a tenant shall provide notice to such*  
26 *Housing Authority of intent to exercise such right*

1       *and shall identify a date that the tenant intends to*  
2       *occupy such a dwelling unit, which shall not be later*  
3       *than October 1, 2007.*

4               (2) *PREFERENCES.—In making dwelling units*  
5       *available to households pursuant to paragraph (1),*  
6       *such Housing Authority shall provide preference to*  
7       *each such household for occupancy in a dwelling unit*  
8       *in the following locations, in the following order:*

9                       (A) *A dwelling unit in the same public*  
10       *housing project occupied by the household as of*  
11       *August 28, 2005, if available.*

12                      (B) *A dwelling unit in the same census*  
13       *tract in which was located the public housing*  
14       *dwelling unit occupied by the household as of*  
15       *August 28, 2005, if available.*

16                      (C) *A dwelling unit in a census tract adja-*  
17       *cent to the census tract in which was located the*  
18       *public housing dwelling unit occupied by the*  
19       *household as of August 28, 2005, if available.*

20                      (D) *A dwelling unit in the neighborhood in*  
21       *which was located the public housing dwelling*  
22       *unit occupied by the household as of August 28,*  
23       *2005, if available.*

24               (c) *PROHIBITION OF EXCLUSION.—The Housing Au-*  
25       *thority of New Orleans, and any other manager of replace-*



1 *ment dwelling units set forth in this section shall not, in-*  
2 *cluding through the application of any waiting list or eligi-*  
3 *bility, screening, occupancy, or other policy or practice,*  
4 *prevent any household referred to in subsection (b)(1) from*  
5 *occupying a replacement dwelling unit provided pursuant*  
6 *to subsection (a), except to the extent that any other provi-*  
7 *sion of Federal law prohibits occupancy or tenancy of such*  
8 *household in the type of housing of the replacement dwelling*  
9 *unit provided for such household.*

10 *(d) REPLACEMENT DWELLING UNITS.—A dwelling*  
11 *unit described in this subsection is—*

12 *(1) a dwelling unit in public housing operated*  
13 *or administered by the Housing Authority of New Or-*  
14 *leans; or*

15 *(2) a dwelling unit in other comparable housing*  
16 *for which the amount required to be contributed by*  
17 *the tenant for rent is comparable to the amount re-*  
18 *quired to be contributed by the tenant for rental of a*  
19 *comparable public housing dwelling unit.*

20 *(e) RELOCATION ASSISTANCE.—The Housing Author-*  
21 *ity of New Orleans shall provide, to each household provided*  
22 *occupancy in a dwelling unit pursuant to subsection (b),*  
23 *assistance under the Uniform Relocation Assistance and*  
24 *Real Property Acquisitions Policy Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C.*  
25 *4601 et seq.) for relocation to such dwelling unit.*

1 **SEC. 203. ONE-FOR-ONE REPLACEMENT OF ALL PUBLIC**  
2 **HOUSING DWELLING UNITS.**

3 (a) *CONDITIONS ON DEMOLITION.*—After the date of  
4 the enactment of this Act, the Housing Authority of New  
5 Orleans may not demolish or dispose of any dwelling unit  
6 of public housing operated or administered by such agency  
7 (including any uninhabitable unit and any unit previously  
8 approved for demolition) except pursuant to a plan for re-  
9 placement of such units in accordance with, and approved  
10 by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development pur-  
11 suant to, subsection (b).

12 (b) *PLAN REQUIREMENTS.*—The Secretary may not  
13 approve a plan that provides for demolition or disposition  
14 of any dwelling unit of public housing referred to in sub-  
15 section (a) unless—

16 (1) such plan is developed with the active par-  
17 ticipation of the resident councils of, and residents of  
18 public housing operated or administered by, such  
19 Housing Authority and with the City of New Orleans,  
20 at every phase of the planning and approval process,  
21 through a process that provides opportunity for com-  
22 ment on specific proposals for redevelopment, demoli-  
23 tion, or disposition;

24 (2) not later than 60 days before the date of the  
25 approval of such plan, such Housing Authority has

1       *convened and conducted a public hearing regarding*  
2       *the demolition or disposition proposed in the plan;*

3               *(3) such plan provides that for each such dwell-*  
4       *ing unit demolished or disposed of, such public hous-*  
5       *ing agency will provide an additional dwelling unit*  
6       *through—*

7                       *(A) the acquisition or development of addi-*  
8       *tional public housing dwelling units; or*

9                       *(B) the acquisition, development, or con-*  
10       *tracting (including through project-based assist-*  
11       *ance) of additional dwelling units that are sub-*  
12       *ject to requirements regarding eligibility for oc-*  
13       *cupancy, tenant contribution toward rent, and*  
14       *long-term affordability restrictions which are*  
15       *comparable to public housing units;*

16               *(4) such plan provides for the implementation of*  
17       *a right for households to occupancy housing in ac-*  
18       *cordance with section 202;*

19               *(5) such plan provides priority in making units*  
20       *available under paragraph (3) to residents identified*  
21       *in section 201;*

22               *(6) such plan provides that the proposed demoli-*  
23       *tion or disposition and relocation will be carried out*  
24       *in a manner that affirmatively furthers fair housing,*

1       *as described in subsection (e) of section 808 of the*  
2       *Civil Rights Act of 1968; and*

3               *(7) to the extent that such plan provides for the*  
4       *provision of replacement or additional dwelling units,*  
5       *or redevelopment, in phases over time, such plan pro-*  
6       *vides that the ratio of dwelling units described in sub-*  
7       *paragraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (3) that are*  
8       *provided in any such single phase to the total number*  
9       *of dwelling units provided in such phase is not less*  
10       *than the ratio of the aggregate number of such dwell-*  
11       *ing units provided under the plan to the total number*  
12       *of dwelling units provided under the plan.*

13       *(c) INAPPLICABLE PROVISIONS.—Subparagraphs (B)*  
14       *and (D) of section 8(o)(13) of the United States Housing*  
15       *Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)(13)) shall not apply with*  
16       *respect to vouchers used to comply with the requirements*  
17       *of subsection (b)(3) of this section.*

18       *(d) MONITORING.—The Secretary of Housing and*  
19       *Urban Development shall provide for the appropriate field*  
20       *offices of the Department to monitor and supervise enforce-*  
21       *ment of this section and plans approved under this section*  
22       *and to consult, regarding such monitoring and enforcement,*  
23       *with resident councils of, and residents of public housing*  
24       *operated or administered by, the Housing Authority of New*  
25       *Orleans and with the City of New Orleans.*

1 **SEC. 204. PROTECTION FOR PUBLIC HOUSING RESIDENTS**  
2 **IN HURRICANE AREAS.**

3 (a) *CONDITIONS ON TRANSFER.*—During the two year  
4 period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act,  
5 a public housing agency may not transfer ownership of any  
6 public housing dwelling units described in subsection (h)  
7 unless the transferee enters into such binding commitments  
8 as the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development con-  
9 siders necessary to maintain, for the longest feasible period,  
10 the requirements regarding eligibility for occupancy in such  
11 dwelling units and tenant contribution toward rent for such  
12 dwelling units that are applicable to such units as public  
13 housing dwelling units.

14 (b) *CONDITIONS ON DEMOLITION.*—After the date of  
15 the enactment of this Act, a public housing agency may not  
16 dispose or demolish any dwelling units described in sub-  
17 section (h), except pursuant to a plan for replacement of  
18 such units in accordance with, and approved by the Sec-  
19 retary of Housing and Urban Development pursuant to,  
20 subsection (c).

21 (c) *PLAN REQUIREMENT.*—The Secretary of Housing  
22 and Urban Development may not approve a plan that pro-  
23 vides for demolition or disposition of any dwelling unit of  
24 public housing described in subsection (h) unless such plan  
25 complies with the requirements under paragraphs (1), (2),  
26 (3), (6), and (7) of section 203(b), except that such para-

1 *graphs shall be applied for purposes this subsection by sub-*  
2 *stituting “the public housing agency” and “applicable unit*  
3 *of general local government” for “such Housing Authority”*  
4 *and “City of New Orleans”, respectively.*

5       *(d) RELOCATION ASSISTANCE.—A public housing*  
6 *agency shall provide, to each household relocated pursuant*  
7 *to a plan under this section for demolition or disposition,*  
8 *assistance under the Uniform Relocation Assistance and*  
9 *Real Property Acquisitions Policy Act of 1970 for reloca-*  
10 *tion to their new residence.*

11       *(e) RIGHT OF RETURN.—A public housing agency ad-*  
12 *ministering or operating public housing dwelling units de-*  
13 *scribed in subsection (h) has the obligation—*

14               *(1) to use its best efforts to locate tenants dis-*  
15               *placed from such public housing as a result of Hurri-*  
16               *cane Katrina or Rita; and*

17               *(2) to provide such residents occupancy in public*  
18               *housing dwelling units of such agency that become*  
19               *available for occupancy, and to ensure such residents*  
20               *a means to exercise such right of return.*

21       *(f) INAPPLICABILITY OF CERTAIN PROJECT-BASED*  
22 *VOUCHER LIMITATIONS.—Subparagraphs (B) and (D) of*  
23 *section 8(o)(13) of the United States Housing Act of 1937*  
24 *(42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)(13)) shall not apply with respect to any*

1 *project-based vouchers used to comply with the requirements*  
2 *of a plan under subsection (c).*

3       (g) *PROHIBITION ON DISPLACEMENT FROM HABIT-*  
4 *ABLE UNITS.—A public housing agency may not displace*  
5 *a tenant from any public housing dwelling unit described*  
6 *in subsection (h) that is administered or operated by such*  
7 *agency and is habitable (including during any period of*  
8 *rehabilitation), unless the agency provides a suitable and*  
9 *comparable dwelling unit for such tenant in the same local*  
10 *community as such public housing dwelling unit.*

11       (h) *COVERED PUBLIC HOUSING DWELLING UNITS.—*  
12 *The public housing dwelling units described in this sub-*  
13 *section are any such dwelling units located in any area*  
14 *for which major disaster or emergency was declared by the*  
15 *President pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief*  
16 *and Emergency Assistance Act as a result of Hurricane*  
17 *Katrina or Rita of 2005, except that such dwelling units*  
18 *shall not include any public housing dwelling units oper-*  
19 *ated or administered by the Housing Authority of New Or-*  
20 *leans.*

21 **SEC. 205. REPORTS ON PROPOSED CONVERSIONS OF PUB-**  
22 **LIC HOUSING UNITS.**

23       *Not later than the expiration of the 15-day period be-*  
24 *ginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-*  
25 *retary of Housing and Urban Development shall submit to*

1 *the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Rep-*  
2 *resentatives and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and*  
3 *Urban Affairs of the Senate a detailed report identifying*  
4 *all public housing projects located in areas impacted by*  
5 *Hurricane Katrina or Rita of 2005, for which plans exist*  
6 *to transfer ownership to other entities or agencies. Such re-*  
7 *port shall include the following information for each such*  
8 *project:*

- 9 (1) *The name and location.*
- 10 (2) *The number of dwelling units.*
- 11 (3) *The proposed new owner.*
- 12 (4) *The existing income eligibility and rent pro-*  
13 *visions.*
- 14 (5) *Duration of existing affordability restric-*  
15 *tions.*
- 16 (6) *The proposed date of transfer.*
- 17 (7) *Any other relevant information regarding the*  
18 *project.*

19 **SEC. 206. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR RE-**  
20 **PAIR AND REHABILITATION.**

21 *There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as*  
22 *may be necessary to carry out activities eligible for funding*  
23 *under the Capital Fund under section 9 of the United*  
24 *States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437g) for the re-*  
25 *pair, rehabilitation, and development of public housing of*



1 *the Housing Authority of New Orleans, and for community*  
2 *and supportive services for the residents of public housing*  
3 *operated or administered by the Housing Authority of New*  
4 *Orleans.*

5 **SEC. 207. COMPLIANCE OF EXISTING REQUESTS FOR PRO-**  
6 **POSALS.**

7 *Each request for qualification or proposal issued before*  
8 *the date of the enactment of this Act with respect to any*  
9 *public housing operated or administered by the Housing*  
10 *Authority of New Orleans shall, notwithstanding any exist-*  
11 *ing terms of such requests, be subject to and comply with*  
12 *all provisions of this title and, to the extent necessary to*  
13 *so comply, such Housing Authority shall reissue such re-*  
14 *quests.*

15 **SEC. 208. REPORTS ON COMPLIANCE.**

16 *Not later than the expiration of the 30-day period be-*  
17 *ginning on the date of the enactment of this Act and not*  
18 *later than the expiration of each calendar quarter there-*  
19 *after, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development*  
20 *shall submit a detailed report regarding compliance with*  
21 *the requirements of this title, including the resident partici-*  
22 *ipation requirement under section 203(b)(1), to the Com-*  
23 *mittee on Financial Services of the House of Representa-*  
24 *tives, the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Af-*  
25 *airs of the Senate, the resident councils of, and residents*

1 *of public housing operated or administered by, the Housing*  
2 *Authority of New Orleans, and the City of New Orleans.*

3 **SEC. 209. REQUIREMENTS REGARDING PUBLIC HOUSING**  
4 **CONSTRUCTION WORKERS.**

5 *Any entity that receives any Federal funds made*  
6 *available pursuant to this title for construction, develop-*  
7 *ment, rehabilitation, or repair of public housing shall verify*  
8 *that all workers employed by such entity and engaged in*  
9 *such activities—*

10 *(1) have an immigration status that allows them*  
11 *to legally be so employed; and*

12 *(2) have a valid form of identification or docu-*  
13 *mentation indicating such immigration status.*

14 **TITLE III—DISASTER VOUCHER**  
15 **PROGRAM AND PROJECT-**  
16 **BASED RENTAL ASSISTANCE**

17 **SEC. 301. EXTENSION OF DVP PROGRAM.**

18 *Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Dis-*  
19 *aster Voucher Program of the Department of Housing and*  
20 *Urban Development, established pursuant to Public Law*  
21 *109–148 (119 Stat. 2779) and the authority of the Sec-*  
22 *retary of Housing and Urban Development to waive re-*  
23 *quirements under section 8 of the United States Housing*  
24 *Act of 1937 in administering assistance under such pro-*  
25 *gram, shall be extended until January 1, 2008.*

1 **SEC. 302. CLARIFICATION OF VOUCHER ALLOCATION FOR-**  
2 **MULA FOR FISCAL YEAR 2007.**

3 *In carrying out section 21033 of the Continuing Ap-*  
4 *propriations Resolution, 2007, to provide renewal funding*  
5 *for tenant-based rental housing assistance under section 8*  
6 *of the United States Housing Act of 1937 for each public*  
7 *housing agency, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Devel-*  
8 *opment shall make, for any public housing agency impacted*  
9 *by Hurricane Katrina, Rita, or Wilma, such adjustments*  
10 *as are appropriate to provide adequate funding to adjust*  
11 *for reduced voucher leasing rates and increased housing*  
12 *costs arising from such hurricanes.*

13 **SEC. 303. PRESERVATION OF PROJECT-BASED HOUSING AS-**  
14 **SISTANCE PAYMENTS CONTRACTS FOR**  
15 **DWELLING UNITS DAMAGED OR DESTROYED.**

16 *(a) TOLLING OF CONTRACT TERM.—Notwithstanding*  
17 *any other provision of law, a project-based housing assist-*  
18 *ance payments contract for a covered assisted multifamily*  
19 *housing project shall not expire or be terminated because*  
20 *of the damage or destruction of dwelling units in the project*  
21 *by Hurricane Katrina or Rita. The expiration date of the*  
22 *contract shall be deemed to be the later of the date specified*  
23 *in the contract or a date that is not less than three months*  
24 *after the dwelling units in the project or in a replacement*  
25 *project are first made habitable.*

1           **(b) OWNER PROPOSALS FOR REUSE OR RE-SITING.**—  
2 *The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall*  
3 *promptly review and shall approve all feasible proposals*  
4 *made by owners of covered assisted multifamily housing*  
5 *projects submitted to the Secretary, not later than October*  
6 *1, 2007, that provide for the rehabilitation of the project*  
7 *and the resumption of use of the assistance under the con-*  
8 *tract for the project, or, alternatively, for the transfer, pur-*  
9 *suant to subsection (c), of the contract or, in the case of*  
10 *a project with an interest reduction payments contract, of*  
11 *the remaining budget authority under the contract, to an-*  
12 *other multifamily housing project.*

13           **(c) TRANSFER OF CONTRACT.**—*In the case of any cov-*  
14 *ered assisted multifamily housing project, the Secretary of*  
15 *Housing and Urban Development shall—*

16           (1) *in the case of a project with a project-based*  
17 *rental assistance payments contract described in sub-*  
18 *paragraph (A), (B), or (C) of subsection (d)(2), trans-*  
19 *fer the contract to another appropriate and habitable*  
20 *existing project or a project to be constructed (having*  
21 *the same or a different owner); and*

22           (2) *in the case of a project with an interest re-*  
23 *duction payments contract pursuant to section 236 of*  
24 *the National Housing Act, use the remaining budget*  
25 *authority under the contract for interest reduction*

1        *payments to reduce financing costs with respect to*  
2        *dwelling units in other habitable projects not cur-*  
3        *rently so assisted, and such dwelling units shall be*  
4        *subject to the low-income affordability restrictions ap-*  
5        *plicable to projects for which such payments are made*  
6        *under section 236 of the National Housing Act.*

7        *A project to which a project-based rental assistance pay-*  
8        *ments contract is transferred may have a different number*  
9        *of units or bedroom configuration than the damaged or de-*  
10       *stroyed project if approximately the same number of indi-*  
11       *viduals are expected to occupy the subsidized units in the*  
12       *replacement project as occupied the damaged or destroyed*  
13       *project.*

14       *(d) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section:*

15                *(1) COVERED ASSISTED MULTIFAMILY HOUSING*  
16        *PROJECT.—The term “assisted multifamily housing*  
17        *project” means a multifamily housing project that—*

18                        *(A) as of the date of the enactment of this*  
19        *Act, is subject to a project-based rental assistance*  
20        *payments contract (including pursuant to sub-*  
21        *section (a) of this section); and*

22                        *(B) that was damaged or destroyed by Hur-*  
23        *ricane Katrina or Hurricane Rita of 2005.*

1           (2) *PROJECT-BASED RENTAL ASSISTANCE PAY-*  
2           *MENTS CONTRACT.*—*The term “project-based rental*  
3           *assistance payments contract” includes—*

4                   (A) *a contract entered into pursuant to sec-*  
5                   *tion 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937*  
6                   *(42 U.S.C. 1437f);*

7                   (B) *a contract for project rental assistance*  
8                   *pursuant to section 202(c)(2) of the Housing Act*  
9                   *of 1959 (12 U.S.C. 1701q(c)(2));*

10                  (C) *a contract for project rental assistance*  
11                  *pursuant to section 811(d)(2) of the Cranston-*  
12                  *Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42*  
13                  *U.S.C. 8013(d)(2)); and*

14                  (D) *an interest reduction payments contract*  
15                  *pursuant to section 236 of the National Housing*  
16                  *Act (12 U.S.C. 1715z–1).*

17 **SEC. 304. TENANT REPLACEMENT VOUCHERS FOR ALL LOST**  
18 **UNITS.**

19           *There is authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year*  
20 *2008 such sums as may be necessary to provide tenant re-*  
21 *placement vouchers under section 8 of the United States*  
22 *Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f) for the number of*  
23 *households that is equal to—*

24                   (1) *the number of assisted dwelling units (wheth-*  
25                   *er occupied or unoccupied) located in covered assisted*

1        *multifamily housing projects (as such term is defined*  
2        *in section 303(d) of this Act) that are not approved*  
3        *for reuse or re-siting by the Secretary; plus*

4                *(2) the number of public housing dwelling units*  
5        *that, as of August 28, 2005, were located in areas af-*  
6        *ected by Hurricane Katrina and were considered for*  
7        *purposes of allocating operating and capital assist-*  
8        *ance under section 9 of the United States Housing*  
9        *Act of 1937 (whether occupied or unoccupied), that*  
10       *will not be put back into use for occupancy; plus*

11               *(3) the number of public housing dwelling units*  
12       *that, as of September 24, 2005, were located in areas*  
13       *affected by Hurricane Rita and were considered for*  
14       *purposes of allocating operating and capital assist-*  
15       *ance under section 9 of the United States Housing*  
16       *Act of 1937 (whether occupied or unoccupied), that*  
17       *will not be put back into use for occupancy; minus*

18               *(4) the number of previously awarded enhanced*  
19       *vouchers for assisted dwelling units and tenant pro-*  
20       *tection vouchers for public housing units covered*  
21       *under this section.*

22 *Any amounts made available pursuant to this section shall,*  
23 *upon the request of a public housing agency for such vouch-*  
24 *er assistance, be allocated to the public housing agency*  
25 *based the number of dwelling units described in paragraph*

1 (1) or (2) that are located in the jurisdiction of the public  
2 housing agency.

3 **SEC. 305. VOUCHER ASSISTANCE FOR SUPPORTIVE HOUS-**  
4 **ING.**

5 *There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as*  
6 *may be necessary to provide 4,500 vouchers for project-based*  
7 *rental assistance under section 8(o)(13) of the United States*  
8 *Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)(13)) for use for*  
9 *supportive housing dwelling units for elderly families, per-*  
10 *sons with disabilities, or homeless persons. The Secretary*  
11 *of Housing and Urban Development shall make available*  
12 *to the State of Louisiana or its designee or designees, upon*  
13 *request, 3,000 of such vouchers. Subparagraphs (B) and (D)*  
14 *of section 8(o)(13) of the United States Housing Act of 1937*  
15 *(42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)(13)) shall not apply with respect to*  
16 *vouchers made available under this section.*

17 **SEC. 306. TRANSFER OF DVP VOUCHERS TO VOUCHER PRO-**  
18 **GRAM.**

19 (a) *TRANSFER TO SECTION 8 VOUCHER PROGRAM.—*  
20 *There are authorized to be appropriated, for tenant-based*  
21 *assistance under section 8(o) of the United States Housing*  
22 *Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)), such sums as may be nec-*  
23 *essary to provide vouchers for such assistance for each*  
24 *household that, as of the termination date of the Disaster*  
25 *Voucher Program referred to in section 301 of this Act, is*



1 *assisted under such program, for the period that such house-*  
2 *hold is eligible for such voucher assistance. Such voucher*  
3 *assistance shall be administered by the public housing agen-*  
4 *cy having jurisdiction of the area in which such assisted*  
5 *family resides as of such termination date.*

6 (b) *TEMPORARY VOUCHERS.—If at any time a house-*  
7 *hold for whom a voucher for rental housing assistance is*  
8 *provided pursuant to this section becomes ineligible for fur-*  
9 *ther such rental assistance—*

10 (1) *the public housing agency administering*  
11 *such voucher pursuant to this section may not pro-*  
12 *vide rental assistance under such voucher for any*  
13 *other household;*

14 (2) *the Secretary of Housing and Urban Devel-*  
15 *opment shall recapture from such agency any remain-*  
16 *ing amounts for assistance attributable to such vouch-*  
17 *er and may not reobligate such amounts to any pub-*  
18 *lic housing agency; and*

19 (3) *such voucher shall not be taken into consider-*  
20 *ation for purposes of determining any future alloca-*  
21 *tion of amounts for such tenant-based rental assist-*  
22 *ance for any public housing agency.*

1 **SEC. 307. IDENTIFICATION AND NOTIFICATION OF DVP-ELI-**  
 2 **GIBLE HOUSEHOLDS NOT ASSISTED.**

3 *The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development*  
 4 *shall make a good faith effort to identify all households who,*  
 5 *as of the date of the enactment of this Act, are eligible for*  
 6 *assistance under the Disaster Voucher Program referred to*  
 7 *in section 301 but are not assisted under such program.*  
 8 *Upon identification of each such household, the Secretary*  
 9 *shall—*

10 (1) *notify such household of the rights of the*  
 11 *household to return a public housing or other assisted*  
 12 *dwelling unit; and*

13 (2) *to the extent that the family is eligible at*  
 14 *such time of identification, offer the household assist-*  
 15 *ance under the Disaster Voucher program.*

16 **TITLE IV—DAMAGES ARISING**  
 17 **FROM FEMA ACTIONS**

18 **SEC. 401. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS TO REIM-**  
 19 **BURSE LANDLORDS FOR DAMAGES DUE TO**  
 20 **FEMA MANAGEMENT OF CITY LEASE PRO-**  
 21 **GRAM.**

22 *There are authorized to be appropriated, from amounts*  
 23 *made available before the date of the enactment of this Act*  
 24 *under any provision of law to the Federal Emergency Man-*  
 25 *agement Agency for disaster relief under the Robert T. Staf-*  
 26 *ford Disaster Relief Emergency Assistance Act, such sums*

1 *as may be necessary for the Secretary of Housing and*  
2 *Urban Development to provide reimbursement to each land-*  
3 *lord who participated in the city lease program of the Fed-*  
4 *eral Emergency Management Agency pursuant to section*  
5 *403 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emer-*  
6 *gency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170b) in the amount of*  
7 *actual, documented damages incurred by such landlord as*  
8 *a result of abrogation by such Agency of commitments en-*  
9 *tered into under such program.*

10 ***TITLE V—FHA SINGLE FAMILY***  
11 ***HOUSING***

12 ***SEC. 501. TREATMENT OF NON-CONVEYABLE PROPERTIES.***

13 *Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in the*  
14 *case of any property consisting of 1- to 4-family residence*  
15 *that is subject to a mortgage insured under title II of the*  
16 *National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1707 et seq.) and was*  
17 *damaged or destroyed as a result of Hurricane Katrina or*  
18 *Rita of 2005, if there was no failure on the part of the*  
19 *mortgagee or servicer to provide hazard insurance for the*  
20 *property or to provide flood insurance coverage for the*  
21 *property to the extent such coverage is required under Fed-*  
22 *eral law, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Develop-*  
23 *ment—*

24 *(1) may not deny conveyance of title to the prop-*  
25 *erty to the Secretary and payment of the benefits of*

1        *such insurance on the basis of the condition of the*  
2        *property or any failure to repair the property;*

3            *(2) may not reduce the amount of such insurance*  
4        *benefits to take into consideration any costs of repair-*  
5        *ing the property; and*

6            *(3) with respect to a property that is destroyed,*  
7        *condemned, demolished, or otherwise not available for*  
8        *conveyance of title, may pay the full benefits of such*  
9        *insurance to the mortgagee notwithstanding that such*  
10       *title is not conveyed.*

11            ***TITLE VI—FAIR HOUSING***  
12            ***ENFORCEMENT***

13        ***SEC. 601. FAIR HOUSING INITIATIVES PROGRAM.***

14            *(a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is*  
15        *authorized to be appropriated to carry out section 561 of*  
16        *the Housing and Community Development Act of 1987 (42*  
17        *U.S.C. 3616a), in each of fiscal years 2008 and 2009, such*  
18        *sums as may be necessary, but not less than \$5,000,000,*  
19        *for areas affected by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, of*  
20        *which, in each such fiscal year—*

21            *(1) 60 percent shall be available only for private*  
22        *enforcement initiatives for qualified private enforce-*  
23        *ment fair housing organizations authorized under*  
24        *subsection (b) of such section, and, of the amount*  
25        *made available in accordance with this paragraph,*

1        *the Secretary shall set aside an amount for multi-*  
2        *year grants to qualified fair housing enforcement or-*  
3        *ganizations;*

4            *(2) 20 percent shall be available only for activi-*  
5        *ties authorized under paragraphs (1) and (2) of sub-*  
6        *section (c) of such section; and*

7            *(3) 20 percent shall be available only for edu-*  
8        *cation and outreach programs authorized under sub-*  
9        *section (d) of such section.*

10        *(b) LOW FUNDING.—If the total amount appropriated*  
11        *to carry out the Fair Housing Initiatives Program for ei-*  
12        *ther fiscal year 2008 or 2009 is less than \$50,000,000, not*  
13        *less than 5 percent of such total amount appropriated for*  
14        *such fiscal year shall be available for the areas described*  
15        *in subsection (a) for the activities described in paragraphs*  
16        *(1), (2), and (3) of such subsection.*

17        *(c) AVAILABILITY.—Any amounts appropriated under*  
18        *this section shall remain available until expended.*

1 **TITLE VII—IMPROVED DISTRIBUTION OF FEDERAL HURRICANE HOUSING FUNDS FOR HURRICANE RELIEF**

2  
3  
4  
5 **SEC. 701. GAO STUDY OF IMPROVED DISTRIBUTION OF FEDERAL HOUSING FUNDS FOR HURRICANE RELIEF.**

6  
7  
8 (a) *STUDY.*—The Comptroller General of the United  
9 States shall conduct a study to examine methods of improv-  
10 ing the distribution of Federal housing funds to assist  
11 States covered by this Act with recovery from hurricanes,  
12 which shall include identifying and analyzing—

13 (1) the Federal and State agencies used in the  
14 past to disburse such funds and the strengths and  
15 weakness of existing programs;

16 (2) the means by and extent to which critical in-  
17 formation relating to hurricane recovery, such as  
18 property valuations, is shared among various State  
19 and Federal agencies;

20 (3) program requirements that create impedi-  
21 ments to the distribution of such funds that can be  
22 eliminated or streamlined;

23 (4) housing laws and regulations that have  
24 caused programs to be developed in a manner that  
25 complies with statutory requirements but fails to meet

1 *the housing objectives or needs of the States or the*  
2 *Federal Government;*

3 *(5) laws relating to privacy and impediments*  
4 *raised by housing laws to the sharing, between the*  
5 *Federal Government and State governments, and pri-*  
6 *vate industry, of critical information relating to hur-*  
7 *ricane recovery;*

8 *(6) methods of streamlining applications for and*  
9 *underwriting of Federal housing grant or loan pro-*  
10 *grams; and*

11 *(7) how to establish more equitable Federal hous-*  
12 *ing laws regarding duplication of benefits.*

13 *(b) REPORT.—Not later than 6 months after the date*  
14 *of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General shall*  
15 *submit to the Congress a report describing the results of the*  
16 *study and any recommendations regarding the issues ana-*  
17 *lyzed under the study.*

18 **TITLE VIII—COMMENDING AMER-**  
19 **ICANS FOR THEIR REBUILD-**  
20 **ING EFFORTS**

21 **SEC. 801. COMMENDING AMERICANS.**

22 *(a) CONGRESSIONAL FINDINGS.—The Congress finds*  
23 *that—*

24 *(1) over 500,000 individuals in the United*  
25 *States have volunteered their time in helping rebuild*

1 *the Gulf Coast region in the aftermath of Hurricane's*  
2 *Katrina and Rita;*

3 *(2) over \$3,500,000,000 in cash and in-kind do-*  
4 *nations have been made for hurricane victims;*

5 *(3) 40,000,000 pounds of food have been distrib-*  
6 *uted by Catholic Charities' Food Bank through hurri-*  
7 *cane relief efforts;*

8 *(4) almost 7,000,000 hot meals have been served*  
9 *by Salvation Army volunteers in hurricane relief ef-*  
10 *forts;*

11 *(5) over 10,000,000 college students have devoted*  
12 *their spring and fall breaks to hurricane relief efforts;*

13 *(6) almost 20,000 families displaced as a result*  
14 *of the hurricanes have been supported by Traveler's*  
15 *Aid volunteers;*

16 *(7) faith-based organizations, such as Jewish*  
17 *Family Services, Lutheran Disaster Response, the*  
18 *United Methodist Committee on Relief, Presbyterian*  
19 *Disaster Assistance, the National Baptist Convention*  
20 *of America, Inc., the Progressive National Baptist*  
21 *Convention, the Southern Baptist Convention, and*  
22 *the African Methodist Episcopal Church have contrib-*  
23 *uted tens of thousands of man-hours for hurricane re-*  
24 *lief; and*



1           (8) *community-based organizations, such as the*  
2           *Boys and Girls Club of America, Junior League, Boy*  
3           *and Girl Scouts of America, and the YMCA, have had*  
4           *thousands of members volunteer with the cleanup in*  
5           *the Gulf States.*

6           (b) *COMMENDATION.—The Congress hereby commends*  
7           *the actions and efforts by the remarkable individuals and*  
8           *organizations who contributed to the hurricane relief effort*  
9           *and recognizes that the rebuilding of the Gulf Coast region*  
10          *rests on the selfless dedication of private individuals and*  
11          *community spirit.*

Union Calendar No. 24

110<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> Session

**H. R. 1227**

[Report No. 110-51, Part I]

---

---

**A BILL**

To assist in the provision of affordable housing to low-income families affected by Hurricane Katrina.

---

---

MARCH 16, 2007

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure discharged; committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed