

COMMUNITY BUILDING CODE ADMINISTRATION GRANT ACT

Introduced to the 110th Congress by Sen. Mary Landrieu (LA) and Rep. Dennis Moore (KS)

S. 2458 was introduced on December 12, 2007 and has been referred to the Senate Banking Committee.

H.R. 4461 was introduced on December 12, 2007 and has been referred to the House Financial Services Committee.

Section 1. Short Title

The popular title of the bill is the “**Community Building Code Administration Grant Act of 2007**”.

Section 2. Authorization of Grant Program

Establishes the authority and responsibility for the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to administer a new grant program. The maximum amount of any individual grant shall be \$1 million. Grant applications shall be:

- Competitively evaluated,
- Scored in consideration of the financial condition of the community,
- Scored on demonstration of benefits to the local community of an adequately funded code enforcement office,
- Scored on demonstrated capability to work cooperatively with other code enforcement offices and public safety agencies.

Section 3. Required Elements in Grant Proposals

Applications for funding shall include:

- A demonstration of needs for resources to aid local building code enforcement,
- A presentation of a specific plan for the use of the grant funds that addresses the demonstrated needs,
- A plan for how the grant recipient will self-sustain the new level of code enforcement activities after the grant,
- A plan to inform and educate the public about the purpose and use of the grant funded programs,
- A plan to ensure administrative and judicial action in enforcement of building, fire and health codes.

Section 4. Use of Funds and Matching Funds Requirements

Eligible use of the funding includes supplementing departmental activities with:

- An increase in staffing,
- Staff training and professional certification,
- Departmental accreditation, for capital acquisition, and for
- Similar expenses that directly support enhanced building and fire code enforcement.

Rules for match funding from local resources include:

- Matching requirements shall be scaled to as little as 5% depending upon local conditions,
- Matching funds may include in-kind contributions,
- Local match can be waived for jurisdictions that dedicate permit fees to the local code enforcement program.

Section 5. And Section 6. Rating and Ranking of Applications and Selection Criteria

This section prescribes scoring criteria for each of the items in *Section 3. Required Elements in Grant Proposals*.

Section 7. Evaluation and Report

Grant recipients shall be required to report on uses of grant funds including:

- The code enforcement capabilities that were impacted by use of the grant,
- Lessons learned in executing the plan supported by the grant,
- Recommendations for changes in the grant program.

HUD is to maintain a system for free public access to reports via the Internet.

Section 8. Definitions

Defines an eligible recipient as a city, county, parish or similar authority, or a combined authority, with jurisdictional to enforce building codes and regulations.

Section 9. Authorization of Appropriations

Establishes a 5 year authorization of \$100 million per year and allows HUD to reserve 5% for its own administrative expenses.