

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4347

To end homelessness in the United States.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 16, 2005

Ms. CARSON (for herself, Mr. CONYERS, Ms. LEE, Mr. KUCINICH, Mr. CAPUANO, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. McDERMOTT, Mr. SANDERS, and Mr. GUTIERREZ) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committees on Agriculture, Energy and Commerce, Education and the Workforce, Government Reform, Veterans' Affairs, and Ways and Means, 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

A BILL

To end homelessness in the United States.

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 AND TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
5 “Bringing America Home Act”.

6 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for
7 this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title and table of contents.

Sec. 2. Findings and purpose.

1 **SEC. 607. SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION OUTREACH**
2 **TO HOMELESS PERSONS.**

3 (a) OUTREACH AND APPLICATION ASSISTANCE TO
4 HOMELESS APPLICANTS FOR BENEFITS AND BENE-
5 FICIARIES UNDER TITLE II AND TITLE XVI OF THE SO-
6 CIAL SECURITY ACT.—Part A of title XI of the Social Se-
7 curity Act (42 U.S.C. 1301–1320b-21) is amended by
8 adding at the end the following:

9 “OUTREACH AND APPLICATION ASSISTANCE TO HOME-
10 LESS APPLICANTS FOR BENEFITS AND BENE-
11 FICIARIES UNDER TITLE II AND TITLE XVI

12 “SEC. 1150A. (a) OUTREACH.—The Commissioner of
13 Social Security shall conduct outreach efforts to—

14 “(1) locate and identify homeless individuals
15 who may be eligible for benefits under title II or
16 XVI,

17 “(2) make readily available to such individuals
18 information regarding the availability of such bene-
19 fits, and

20 “(3) offer assistance to such individuals in fil-
21 ing applications for such benefits.

22 “(b) MODIFICATION OF APPLICATION PROCEDURES
23 TO ACCOMMODATE OUTREACH.—The Commissioner shall
24 include on application forms made available for use in ap-
25 plying for benefits under titles II and XVI, in the proce-
26 dures for filing such applications, and in the procedures

1 for determining continuing eligibility for or entitlement to
2 such benefits, mechanisms for collecting data determined
3 useful in furthering the efforts required to be undertaken
4 under subsection (a).

5 “(c) EXPEDITED PROCESSING OF APPLICATIONS.—
6 In furtherance of the efforts required to be undertaken
7 under subsection (a), the Commissioner shall ensure that
8 diligent efforts are maintained to expedite the processing
9 of applications for benefits under titles II and XVI.

10 “(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To
11 carry out the provisions of this section, there are author-
12 ized to be appropriated to the Social Security Administra-
13 tion, from amounts otherwise available in the general fund
14 of the Treasury—

15 “(1) \$20,000,000 for fiscal year 2007, and

16 “(2) such sums as are necessary for each of fis-
17 cal years 2008, 2009, 2010, and 2011.”.

18 (b) REPEAL OF LIMITATION ON RECEIPT OF SSI.—
19 Section 1611(e)(1)(D) of the Social Security Act (42
20 U.S.C. 1382(e)(1)(D)) is amended by striking the semi-
21 colon and all that follows and inserting a period.

22 (c) MEMBERSHIP ON INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON
23 THE HOMELESS.—Section 202(a) of the McKinney-Vento
24 Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11312(a)) is amend-
25 ed—

1 (1) by redesignating paragraph (16) as para-
2 graph (17); and

3 (2) by inserting after paragraph (15) the fol-
4 lowing new paragraph:

5 “(16) The Commissioner of Social Security, or
6 the designee of the Commissioner.”.

7 (d) INCREASE IN SSI ASSET LIMITS.—

8 (1) ELIGIBLE COUPLES.—Section
9 1611(a)(3)(A) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
10 1382(a)(3)(A)) is amended by inserting “, and to
11 \$4,500 on January 1, 2007, and shall be increased
12 by \$150 on January 1 of each succeeding year” be-
13 fore the period.

14 (2) ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS.—Section
15 1611(a)(3)(B) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
16 1382(a)(3)(B)) is amended by inserting “, and to
17 \$3,000 on January 1, 2007, and shall be increased
18 by \$100 on January 1 of each succeeding year” be-
19 fore the period.

20 (e) PRESUMPTIVE ELIGIBILITY FOR SSI FOR PEO-
21 PLE EXPERIENCING, OR AT RISK OF, HOMELESSNESS.—
22 Section 1614(a)(3) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
23 1382c(a)(3)) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
24 lowing:

1 “(K) The Secretary shall presume that a claimant for
2 benefits under this title on the basis of disability is dis-
3 abled if the claimant submits to the Secretary—

4 “(i) a statement, signed by a physician, which
5 attests that the claimant is disabled and describes
6 the nature of the disability; and

7 “(ii) evidence verifying that the claimant is
8 homeless (as defined in section 103 of the McKin-
9 ney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act) or at risk of
10 imminent homelessness.”.

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