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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R.

To require the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to establish a first-time home buyers match program, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. BYNUM introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To require the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to establish a first-time home buyers match program, 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 “First-Time Home Buy-
5 ers Match Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FIRST-TIME HOME BUYERS MATCH PROGRAM.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Housing and
8 Urban Development shall, not later than 1 year after the

1 date of the enactment of this section, establish a pilot pro-
2 gram through which the Secretary shall each year during
3 the duration of the pilot program, deposit into a qualifying
4 savings account of each of 20,000 eligible prospective bor-
5 rowers an amount equal to the lesser of—

6 (1) 50 percent of the amount an eligible person
7 deposited into such account during such year; or
8 (2) \$5,000.

9 (b) RESTRICTION.—The Secretary may not deposit
10 amounts into any qualifying savings account if such ac-
11 count holds an amount that is greater than or equal to
12 the amount that is 10 percent of the area median value
13 of a single-family home in the area where the eligible pro-
14 spective borrower who owns such account resides.

15 (c) REQUIREMENT.—To be eligible to receive
16 amounts under this section, an eligible prospective bor-
17 rower must have completed homeownership counseling
18 provided by a HUD-certified housing counseling agency.

19 (d) USE OF AMOUNTS.—An eligible prospective bor-
20 rower who receives amounts under this section may only
21 use such amounts for—

22 (1) a downpayment associated with the pur-
23 chase of a single-family home;
24 (2) title insurance and other closing costs asso-
25 ciated with the purchase of a single-family home;

3 (4) appraisal and inspection fees associated
4 with the purchase of a single-family home;

5 (5) loan origination fees associated with the
6 purchase of a single-family home; or

7 (6) qualified home repairs, to be reported to the
8 Secretary through a disclosure form.

9 (e) RECAPTURE OF AMOUNTS.—

1 (f) TERMINATION.—The program established under
2 this section shall terminate on the date that is 5 years
3 after the date of the enactment of this section.

4 (g) REPORT.—The Secretary of Housing and Urban
5 Development shall, not later than 180 days after the date
6 described in subsection (e), submit a report to the Com-
7 mittee on Financial Services of the House of Representa-
8 tives and the Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban
9 Affairs of the Senate a report on the effectiveness of the
10 pilot program established under this section that in-
11 cludes—

12 (1) the total number of participants that en-
13 rolled in the program;
14 (2) the average amount saved by participants
15 and the total amount of matching funds disbursed;
16 (3) the number of participants who successfully
17 closed a transaction to purchase a single-family
18 home using amounts provided through the program;
19 (4) data on income levels, racial and ethnic
20 backgrounds, and zip codes of participants;
21 (5) a comparison of mortgage default rates be-
22 tween program participants and a control group of
23 non-participant first-time buyers in the same areas;

1 (6) an evaluation of the effectiveness of the in-
2 stitutions managing qualifying savings account in
3 managing such accounts;

4 (7) the percentage of participants that used
5 amounts provided under this section for qualifying
6 repairs and the average cost of such repairs; and

11 (h) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

12 (1) ELIGIBLE PROSPECTIVE BORROWER.—The
13 term “eligible prospective borrower” means a person
14 who—

15 (A) is a citizen of the United States;

16 (B) is 18 year of age, or older;

17 (C) is a first-time homebuyer, as such term
18 is defined in section 104 of the Cranston Gon-
19 zalez National Affordable Housing Act;

20 (D) has not more than \$75,000 in liquid
21 assets, as determined by the Secretary; and

(E) earns not more than 120 percent of the area median income in the area in which the person resides.

14 (4) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
15 the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.