



H.R. 1980 – Housing Assistance Council Authorization Act of 2007

Floor Situation

H.R. 1980 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative Ruben Hinojosa (D-TX) on April 20, 2007, and was reported by voice vote, as amended, by the Committee on Financial Services on June 21, 2007.

H.R. 1980 is expected to be considered on the floor on July 16, 2007.

Summary

H.R. 1980 authorizes \$10 million for FY2008 and \$15 million each year for FY2009-FY2014 for the Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to assist the Housing Assistance Council in the areas such as:

- technical assistance, training, support, and advice to develop the business and administrative capabilities of rural community-based housing development organizations;
- loans, grants, or other financial assistance to rural community-based housing development organizations to carry out community development and affordable housing activities for low- and moderate-income families; and
- such other activities as may be determined by the Housing Assistance Council.

Background

The Housing Assistance Council (HAC) is a nonprofit corporation that according to their website “has been helping local organizations build affordable homes in rural America since 1971. HAC emphasizes local solutions, empowerment of the poor, reduced dependence, and self-help strategies. HAC assists in the development of both single- and multi-family homes and promotes homeownership for working low-income rural families through a self-help, "sweat equity" construction method. The Housing Assistance Council offers services to public, nonprofit, and private organizations throughout the rural United States. HAC also maintains a special focus on high-need groups and regions: Indian country, the Mississippi Delta, farmworkers, the Southwest border colonias, and Appalachia.”

Cost

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimates that implementing H.R. 1980 would cost \$70 million over the 2008-2012 period, with additional amounts spent in later years, although enacting the bill would not affect direct spending or revenues.

Staff Contact

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