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(Original Signature of Member)

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To authorize security deposit and moving costs assistance for low-income households, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. LEE of California introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To authorize security deposit and moving costs assistance for low-income households, 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 “Delivering Essential
5 Protection, Opportunity, and Security for Tenants Act”
6 or “DEPOSIT Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. RENTAL SECURITY DEPOSIT AND MOVING COST AS-**
2 **SISTANCE FOR HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER**
3 **HOLDERS.**

4 Section 8(q) of the United States Housing Act of
5 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(q)) is amended by adding at the
6 end the following new paragraph:

7 “(6) SUPPLEMENTS FOR SECURITY DEPOSIT
8 AND MOVING COST ASSISTANCE.—

9 “(A) SECURITY DEPOSITS.—The Secretary
10 shall, to the extent amounts are provided in ad-
11 vance in appropriations Acts for assistance
12 under this subparagraph, provide supplemental
13 fees under this subsection to public housing
14 agencies for the costs of providing, on behalf of
15 families assisted under subsection (o), assist-
16 ance to cover the costs of a reasonable security
17 deposit for the assisted dwelling unit of such
18 family. The agency shall require the owner to
19 return any unused amounts of security deposit
20 assistance upon the termination of such family’s
21 tenancy and may make such returned amounts
22 available only for assistance under this subpara-
23 graph.

24 “(B) MOVING COSTS.—The Secretary may
25 provide supplemental fees under this subsection
26 to public housing agencies for the costs of pro-

1 viding, on behalf of families assisted under sub-
2 section (o), assistance to cover the reasonable
3 costs of moving into a new assisted dwelling
4 unit.

5 “(C) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIA-
6 TIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated
7 to the Secretary such sums as may be necessary
8 for assistance under subparagraphs (A) and
9 (B).”.

10 **SEC. 3. RENTAL SECURITY DEPOSIT ASSISTANCE UNDER**
11 **HOME PROGRAM.**

12 (a) ELIGIBLE USE.—Section 212(a) of the Cranston-
13 Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C.
14 12742(a)) is amended by inserting after paragraph (3) the
15 following new paragraph:

16 “(4) SECURITY DEPOSIT ASSISTANCE.—A par-
17 ticipating jurisdiction may use funds provided under
18 this subtitle to provide loans or grants to very low-
19 and low-income families for security deposits for
20 rental of dwelling units, regardless of whether such
21 family is provided tenant-based rental assistance
22 pursuant to paragraph (3). The jurisdiction shall re-
23 quire the owner to return any unused amounts of se-
24 curity deposit assistance upon the termination of

1 such family's tenancy and may use such returned
2 amounts only for assistance under this paragraph.”.

3 (b) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There is
4 authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Housing
5 and Urban Development such sums as may be necessary
6 for assistance under subtitle A of title II of the Cranston-
7 Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C.
8 12741 et seq.), to be made available only for providing
9 security deposit assistance under paragraph (4) of section
10 212(a) of such Act (as added by the amendment made
11 by subsection (a) of this section).

12 **SEC. 4. STUDY ON ALTERNATIVES TO SECURITY DEPOSITS.**

13 (a) **STUDY.**—The Secretary of Housing and Urban
14 Development shall conduct a study to identify and ana-
15 lyze—

16 (1) alternatives to rental housing security de-
17 posits, including products that require a tenant of a
18 dwelling unit to pay a monthly insurance premium
19 to cover costs of repairing damage to the dwelling
20 unit; and

21 (2) the impact that such alternatives have on
22 the rental housing market and tenants, including
23 how such alternatives affect tenants based on tenant
24 race, income, age, sex, disability, and other demo-
25 graphic characteristics.

1 (b) REPORT.—Not later than the expiration of the
2 180-day period beginning on the date of the enactment
3 of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a re-
4 port setting forth the findings and conclusions of the
5 study.