

SENATE BILL NO. 167

BY SENATOR GRAY EVANS

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 49:220.5(A)(2) and to enact R.S. 49:220.8, relative to the Louisiana Recovery Authority; to provide relative to housing for victims of disasters; to require funding for emergency rental assistance; to provide relative to the imported tainted drywall; to provide for priorities; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 49:220.5(A)(2) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 49:220.8 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§220.5. Louisiana Recovery Authority; powers; duties; functions

A. The authority shall have the following powers, duties, and functions:

* * *

(2)~~(a)~~ To propose, implement, and promote the implementation of special programs dedicated to the recovery which may be funded by state or federal funds or other monies, including but not limited to The Road Home Program, the Public Assistance Program, the Hazard Mitigation **Grant** Program, **an Emergency Rental Assistance Program, Imported Tainted Drywall Assistance Program,** and the Alternative Housing Pilot Program. Implementation of programs shall be at the direction of the governor.

(b) Not less than five million dollars of Community Development Block Grant disaster funding, supplemental disaster Social Services Block Grant

1 funding, or other available federal and state resources shall be allocated for
 2 emergency rental assistance. For purposes of this Paragraph, an "Emergency
 3 Rental Assistance Program" shall be a program which provides rental
 4 assistance to families expiring out of FEMA's temporary housing programs or
 5 HUD's Disaster Housing Assistance Program and whose income is less than
 6 eighty percent of the area median income and who are not receiving permanent
 7 housing vouchers or other permanent affordable housing assistance.

8 (c)(i) Not less than five million dollars of the Road Home Program
 9 funding, or other available federal and state resources shall be allocated for an
 10 Imported Tainted Drywall Assistance Program.

11 (ii) For purposes of this Paragraph, the following shall apply:

12 (aa) "Imported Tainted Drywall Assistance Program" shall be a
 13 program which provides for identification and remediation of imported tainted
 14 drywall.

15 (bb) "Remediation" shall include but not be limited to the removal and
 16 replacement of tainted imported drywall.

17 (iii) The Action Plan creating the Imported Tainted Drywall Assistance
 18 Program shall be submitted to the Department of Housing and Urban
 19 Development providing that any Imported Tainted Drywall Assistance Program
 20 funding unallocated or unexpended one year after Department of Housing and
 21 Urban Development's approval of the program shall be transferred to the
 22 Louisiana Housing Trust Fund.

23 * * *

24 §220.8. Emergency Rental Assistance

25 A. As provided in R.S. 49:220.5(A)(2), the authority shall allocate
 26 funding for emergency rental assistance programs. Such programs shall
 27 prioritize funding for households that participated in Hurricanes Katrina or
 28 Rita temporary housing assistance programs such as HUD's Disaster Housing
 29 Assistance Program or FEMA's temporary housing program and continue to
 30 be in need and do not qualify for housing choice voucher program assistance or

1 other programs established to address the housing needs of transitioning
2 households.

3 B. After the needs of households identified in Subsection A of this
4 Section are addressed and subject to funding, the authority shall allocate any
5 remaining resources in the following order:

6 (1) Households participating in Hurricanes Gustav or Ike temporary
7 housing assistance programs.

8 (2) Households in need who either did not qualify or did not participate
9 in temporary housing assistance programs of Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, Gustav,
10 or Ike.

11 C. The authority or any other agency of the state designated to
12 coordinate disaster recovery programs shall partner with the Department of
13 Social Services and other relevant state agencies for the implementation of
14 emergency rental assistance programs.

15 Section 2. Within thirty days of the effective date of this Act, the Louisiana
16 Recovery Authority is hereby authorized and directed to prepare as necessary an Action Plan
17 Amendment for implementing Section 1 of this Act, which Action Plan Amendment shall
18 be submitted for the review and approval of the governor, the Joint Legislative Committee
19 on the Budget, and the legislature, as appropriate, all in accordance with the provision of
20 P.L. 109-148, P.L. 109-234, P.L. 110-116, or P.L. 110-329 and in accordance with the
21 provisions of R.S. 49:220.5, which Action Plan Amendment shall be submitted to the U.S.
22 Department of Housing and Urban Development for its review and approval.

23 Section 3. Section 1 of this Act shall become effective only if and when such Action
24 Plan Amendment for implementing R.S. 49:220.5(A)(2) as provided in Section 1 of this Act
25 is approved by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The Louisiana
26 Recovery Authority shall provide written notification of such approval to the Louisiana State
27 Law Institute.

28 Section 4. Sections 2, 3, and 4 of this Act shall become effective upon signature by
29 the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to
30 become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the

1 Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the
2 legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____