

104<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 1282

To provide employment opportunities to unemployed individuals in high unemployment areas in programs to repair and renovate essential community facilities.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 21, 1995

Ms. WATERS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the  
Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities

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## A BILL

To provide employment opportunities to unemployed individuals in high unemployment areas in programs to repair and renovate essential community facilities.

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 “Neighborhood Infra-  
5 structure Improvement and Inner City Job Creation Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF GRANT PROGRAM.**

7 The Secretary of Labor (in this Act referred to as  
8 the “Secretary”) shall provide grants to eligible adminis-  
9 trative entities described in section 3(a) for the purpose

1 of establishing and carrying out programs that provide  
2 employment opportunities to unemployed individuals  
3 through payments for labor and related costs associated  
4 with the repair and renovation of essential community fa-  
5 cilities.

6 **SEC. 3. ELIGIBLE ADMINISTRATIVE ENTITIES.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—An administrative entity shall be  
8 eligible to receive a grant under section 2 if the entity is—

9 (1) a private industry council (described under  
10 section 102 of the Job Training Partnership Act (29  
11 U.S.C. 1512)),

12 (2) a unit of general local government,

13 (3) a nonprofit private organization, or

14 (4) in the case of a grant involving a Native  
15 American Indian tribe or Alaska Native Village, a  
16 grantee designated under subsection (c) or (d) of  
17 section 401 of the Job Training Partnership Act, or  
18 a consortium of such grantees and the State,

19 that serves 1 or more eligible jurisdictions described under  
20 subsection (b).

21 (b) ELIGIBLE JURISDICTION.—An eligible jurisdic-  
22 tion described under this subsection is an area which has  
23 a poverty rate in excess of 30 percent and which is—

24 (1) a unit of general local government which  
25 has a population of 50,000 or more individuals; or

1           (2) a Native American Indian tribe, band, or  
2           group located on a Federal or State reservation, the  
3           Oklahoma Indians, and any Alaska Native village or  
4           group as defined in the Alaska Native Claims Settle-  
5           ment Act, having a governing body.

6           (c) PRIORITY.—In selecting administrative entities  
7           described in subsection (a) to receive a grant under section  
8           2, priority shall be given to administrative entities that  
9           give assurances to the Secretary in the application submit-  
10          ted under section 4 that such entities will give priority  
11          to individuals who are low-skilled workers in selecting indi-  
12          viduals to participate in programs established and carried  
13          out by such entities under section 5(a).

14       **SEC. 4. APPLICATION.**

15          The Secretary may not make a grant under section  
16          2 to an eligible administrative entity unless the entity sub-  
17          mits to the Secretary an application in such form and con-  
18          taining such information as the Secretary may require.

19       **SEC. 5. USE OF AMOUNTS.**

20          (a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection  
21          (b), the Secretary may not make a grant under section  
22          2 to an eligible administrative entity unless the entity  
23          agrees that it will use all amounts received from such  
24          grant to establish and carry out a program to provide  
25          wages and related employment benefits to eligible individ-

1 uals described in subsections (a) and (b) of section 6 for  
2 the purpose of employing such individuals to repair and  
3 renovate essential community facilities that are located  
4 within the eligible jurisdiction that the entity serves, in-  
5 cluding—

6 (1) painting bridges;

7 (2) repairing and renovating public buildings  
8 and other community facilities, including public li-  
9 braries;

10 (3) repairing and renovating public housing  
11 units;

12 (4) repairing water systems and water develop-  
13 ment projects;

14 (5) erecting or replacing traffic control signs  
15 and removing road sign obstructions;

16 (6) replacing school crossing, intersection, and  
17 other road surface markings;

18 (7) repairing roads and streets;

19 (8) repairing and renovating parks and play-  
20 grounds;

21 (9) installing and repairing drainage pipes and  
22 catch basins in areas subject to flooding;

23 (10) installing graded ramps for individuals  
24 with disabilities; and

1           (11) weatherizing community facilities and car-  
2           rying out other energy conservation activities.

3           (b) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—Not more than 25  
4 percent of amounts received from a grant under section  
5 2 for any fiscal year may be used for the cost of adminis-  
6 tration and the acquisition of supplies, tools, and other  
7 equipment.

8 **SEC. 6. ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS.**

9           (a) IN GENERAL.—An individual shall be eligible to  
10 participate in a program described in section 5(a) only if  
11 the individual—

12           (1) is an unemployed individual at the time of  
13 enrollment in such program;

14           (2) has been unemployed, at a minimum, for  
15 the duration of the 15-week period immediately pre-  
16 ceding the date of such enrollment; and

17           (3) has made a good-faith attempt to obtain  
18 employment during such 15-week period.

19           (b) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENT FOR SECONDARY  
20 SCHOOL-AGE INDIVIDUALS.—

21           (1) IN GENERAL.—In addition to meeting the  
22 requirements described in subsection (a), a second-  
23 ary school-age individual shall be eligible to partici-  
24 pate in a program described in section 5(a) only if  
25 the individual has not attended a secondary school

1 for any part of the 6-month period immediately pre-  
2 ceding the date of enrollment in such program.

3 (2) SECONDARY SCHOOL-AGE INDIVIDUAL DE-  
4 FINED.—For purposes of paragraph (1), the term  
5 “secondary school-age individual” means an individ-  
6 ual who has attained the age of 16 but has not at-  
7 tained the age of 20.

8 (c) PRIORITY.—In selecting individuals described in  
9 subsections (a) and (b) to participate in a program de-  
10 scribed in section 5(a), priority shall be given to the indi-  
11 viduals who, at the time of selection to the program, have  
12 exhausted or are otherwise not eligible for unemployment  
13 insurance benefits, particularly those individuals who have  
14 been unemployed for the longest periods of time preceding  
15 the date of their selection to the program.

16 **SEC. 7. NONDISCRIMINATION.**

17 No individual shall be excluded from participation in,  
18 denied the benefits of, subjected to discrimination under,  
19 or denied employment in the administration of or in con-  
20 nection with any program described in section 5(a) be-  
21 cause of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, dis-  
22 ability, or political affiliation or belief.

23 **SEC. 8. LABOR STANDARDS.**

24 The labor standards described under section 143 of  
25 the Job Training Partnership Act (29 U.S.C. 1553) shall

1 apply for purposes of a program established under section  
2 5(a).

3 **SEC. 9. MAINTENANCE OF EXPENDITURES.**

4 The Secretary may not make a grant under section  
5 2 to an eligible administrative entity unless the entity  
6 agrees that it will maintain its aggregate expenditures  
7 from all other sources for employing individuals to repair  
8 and renovate essential community facilities at or above the  
9 average level of such expenditures in the 2 fiscal years  
10 preceding the date on which the entity submits an applica-  
11 tion under section 4 to the Secretary.

12 **SEC. 10. REPORT.**

13 The Secretary may not make a grant under section  
14 2 to an eligible administrative entity unless the entity  
15 agrees that it will submit, for any fiscal year in which the  
16 entity receives a grant under such section, a report to the  
17 Secretary describing the use of such grant and any other  
18 information the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

19 **SEC. 11. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

20 (a) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be appro-  
21 priated to carry out section 2 \$1,000,000,000 for fiscal  
22 year 1996 and such sums as may be necessary for each  
23 succeeding fiscal year.

1       (b) AVAILABILITY.—Funds authorized to be appro-  
2       priated under subsection (a) shall remain available until  
3       expended.

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