

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4956

To provide that the Executive order entitled “Establishing a White House Council on Eliminating Regulatory Barriers to Affordable Housing” shall have the force and effect of law, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 31, 2019

Ms. FOXX of North Carolina (for herself and Mrs. WAGNER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Financial Services

A BILL

To provide that the Executive order entitled “Establishing a White House Council on Eliminating Regulatory Barriers to Affordable Housing” shall have the force and effect of law, 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 “Finding Market-Based
5 and Local Solutions to Ensure Access to Housing Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress finds the following:

1 (1) Communities across the country are facing
2 an affordable housing crisis.

3 (2) Families who pay more than 30 percent of
4 their income for housing are considered cost bur-
5 dened and may have difficulty affording necessities
6 such as food, clothing, transportation, and medical
7 care.

8 (3) The Department of Housing and Urban De-
9 velopment estimates 12,000,000 renter and home-
10 owner households now pay more than 50 percent of
11 their annual incomes for housing.

12 (4) The prohibitive cost of housing slows eco-
13 nomic growth and means fewer jobs and lower
14 wages.

15 (5) Housing demand depends on local demo-
16 graphics, job markets, and place-based amenities.

17 (6) Housing supply depends on local availability
18 of land and the cost and complexity of housing de-
19 velopment.

20 (7) Land-use restrictions are a significant fac-
21 tor in housing supply and prices.

22 (8) There is evidence that exclusionary and re-
23 strictive zoning raises housing prices and restricts
24 the supply of housing across the country.

25 (9) Housing markets are local.

1 (10) Exclusionary and restrictive zoning policies
2 that affect development are adopted by local govern-
3 ments.

4 (11) The Federal Government has limited con-
5 trol over State and local land-use policy and zoning.

6 (12) To understand and correct housing short-
7 ages, Federal, State, and local governments need to
8 look at all options.

9 (13) Housing is critical for health, economic
10 stability, and academic success.

11 **SEC. 3. LEGAL EFFECT.**

12 Notwithstanding any other provision of law or Execu-
13 tive order, Executive Order 13878 (84 Fed. Reg. 30853),
14 signed on June 25, 2019, and entitled “Establishing a
15 White House Council on Eliminating Regulatory Barriers
16 to Affordable Housing” shall have the force and effect of
17 law.

18 **SEC. 4. REPORT TO CONGRESS.**

19 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the
20 date of the enactment of this Act, the White House Coun-
21 cil on Eliminating Regulatory Barriers to Affordable
22 Housing shall submit to the Congress a report on the im-
23 plementation, by the Council, of section 4 of Executive
24 Order 13878 (84 Fed. Reg. 30853).

1 (b) SUBSEQUENT REPORTS.—The White House
2 Council on Eliminating Regulatory Barriers to Affordable
3 Housing shall submit any subsequent report that the Con-
4 gress may request or that the Council may deem appro-
5 priate.

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