

117TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 6426

To increase accountability, transparency, and local control of governing boards under the Continuum of Care program of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 19, 2022

Mr. GOODEN of Texas introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Financial Services

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## A BILL

To increase accountability, transparency, and local control of governing boards under the Continuum of Care program of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, 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 “Empowering Local Of-  
5 ficials to Combat Homelessness Act of 2022”.

1 **SEC. 2. CONTINUUM OF CARE BOARD REQUIREMENTS.**

2 Section 426 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assist-  
3 ance Act (42 U.S.C. 11386) is amended by adding at the  
4 end the following new subsection:

5 “(h) CONTINUUM OF CARE BOARDS.—

6 “(1) HUD REQUIREMENTS.—To be eligible to  
7 act as a governing board for a continuum of care as-  
8 sisted under this subtitle, a continuum of care board  
9 shall comply with such requirements as the Sec-  
10 retary shall establish to ensure the following:

11 “(A) MEMBERSHIP.—A continuum of care  
12 board shall have at all times—

13 “(i) at least one member who is the  
14 mayor or other chief executive officer of a  
15 unit of general local government within the  
16 geographic area served by the continuum  
17 of care; and

18 “(ii) at least one member who is a law  
19 enforcement officer of a law enforcement  
20 agency whose jurisdiction includes any  
21 area within the geographic area served by  
22 the continuum of care.

23 “(B) TRANSPARENCY.— A continuum of  
24 care board shall comply with guidelines, that  
25 the Secretary shall establish, that—

1 “(i) provide requirements and best  
2 practices guidance regarding the scoring or  
3 awarding grants and preventing, moni-  
4 toring, and reporting conflicts of interest  
5 among members of a continuum of care  
6 board; and

7 “(ii) require each continuum of care  
8 board to submit to the Secretary, for each  
9 grant cycle, the scoring criteria used in  
10 awarding grants.

11 “(2) GAO REQUIREMENTS.—The Comptroller  
12 General of the United States shall—

13 “(A) provide technical assistance to the  
14 Secretary in establishing the guidelines under  
15 paragraph (1)(B); and

16 “(B) conduct oversight of grant amounts  
17 distributed pursuant to this subtitle for any  
18 continuum of care program that has been noti-  
19 fied by the Secretary, the Inspector General of  
20 the Department of Housing and Urban Devel-  
21 opment, the Comptroller General, or any rel-  
22 evant State agency during the past 36 months  
23 of a violation relating to the use of funds pro-  
24 vided under this subtitle, to ensure use of such  
25 grant amounts in accordance with this subtitle.

1       “(i) APPLICABILITY.—This subsection may not be  
2 construed to alter or affect any other requirement estab-  
3 lished by the Secretary with respect to continuum of care  
4 boards.”.

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