

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 5307

To clarify that the Secretary of Health and Human Services has authority to implement a residential eviction moratorium under the quarantine authority vested by the Public Health Service Act, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 21, 2021

Ms. BUSH (for herself, Ms. PRESSLEY, Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ, Mr. GOMEZ, Ms. OMAR, Mr. JONES, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. BOWMAN, Ms. NORTON, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. KAHELE, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Ms. BASS, Ms. MENG, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. RASKIN, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. JAYAPAL, Mr. TAKANO, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. ESCOBAR, Mr. TORRES of New York, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. STANSBURY, Mr. NADLER, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. POCAN, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Ms. TLAIB, and Mr. SCHIFF) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

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## A BILL

To clarify that the Secretary of Health and Human Services has authority to implement a residential eviction moratorium under the quarantine authority vested by the Public Health Service Act, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2       This Act may be cited as the “Keeping Renters Safe  
3 Act of 2021”.

4 **SEC. 2. CLARIFICATION HHS HAS AUTHORITY FOR RESI-**  
5 **DENTIAL EVICTION MORATORIA.**

6       Section 361 of the Public Health Service Act (42  
7 U.S.C. 264) is amended—

8           (1) by redesignating subsection (e) as sub-  
9 section (f); and

10          (2) by inserting after subsection (d) the fol-  
11 lowing:

12       “(e) Consistent with the standard described in sub-  
13 section (a), regulations under this section may implement,  
14 maintain, or extend a residential eviction moratorium.”.

15 **SEC. 3. COVID-19 EVICTION MORATORIUM.**

16       (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and  
17 Human Services shall implement a national residential  
18 eviction moratorium under section 361 of the Public  
19 Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 264) to reduce the intro-  
20 duction, transmission, and spread of COVID-19 and oth-  
21 erwise address the public health emergency declared under  
22 section 319 of the such Act (42 U.S.C. 247d) with respect  
23 to COVID-19.

24       (b) APPLICABILITY.—The moratorium under sub-  
25 section (a) shall—

1           (1) be automatic, without requiring individuals  
2       to apply for coverage; and

3           (2) apply to all residential eviction filings, hear-  
4       ings, judgments, and execution of judgments, except  
5       that the Secretary of Health and Human Services  
6       may establish moratorium exceptions necessary to  
7       protect the health and safety of others.

8       (c) PERIOD FOLLOWING PUBLIC HEALTH EMER-  
9       GENCY.—The moratorium under subsection (a) shall re-  
10      main in effect at least 60 days after the conclusion of the  
11      public health emergency described in such subsection, in-  
12      cluding any extensions thereof.

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