

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2969

To establish the GothamCorps program.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 10, 2007

Mr. WEINER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Education and Labor

A BILL

To establish the GothamCorps program.

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 “GothamCorps Author-
5 ization Act of 2007”.

6 **SEC. 2. GOTHAMCORPS.**

7 (a) PROGRAM ESTABLISHED.—From amounts made
8 available in the National Service Trust to carry out this
9 section, the Corporation for National and Community
10 Service shall carry out a program, to be known as the
11 GothamCorps program, under which the Corporation

1 makes grants to units of local government for use by the
2 unit of local government to carry out volunteer projects.

3 (b) SELECTION CRITERIA AND VOLUNTEER BENE-
4 FITS.—The program shall use the same selection criteria
5 and provide the same volunteer benefits as under the
6 AmeriCorps State and National program.

7 (c) FUNDING.—There are authorized to be appro-
8 priated to the National Service Trust to carry out this
9 section \$260,000,000 for each fiscal year.

10 (d) ALLOCATION OF GRANTS.—For each fiscal year,
11 amounts under the program shall be allocated as follows:

12 (1) The first \$150,000,000 shall be divided
13 equally into six grants, to be made on a competitive
14 basis to units of local government with populations
15 of more than 100,000.

16 (2) The remaining amounts shall be divided
17 into other grants as the Corporation considers ap-
18 propriate, to be made on a competitive basis to units
19 of local government with populations of not more
20 than 100,000.

21 (e) LOCAL FUNDING.—A unit of local government
22 shall provide to each participant in the volunteer project,
23 in addition to the benefit provided to the participant from
24 grant funds, an amount equal to the cost of one year's
25 tuition at a local public college. Amounts so provided may

1 be derived from the unit of local government itself or from
2 third-party funds.

3 (f) FOCUS.—A unit of local government shall des-
4 ignate an issue of primary focus for the volunteer project
5 and shall dedicate the efforts of the project to addressing
6 that issue.

7 (g) NON-DISPLACEMENT.—A unit of local govern-
8 ment shall ensure that the participants in the project do
9 not perform jobs that would otherwise be performed by
10 full-time employees.

11 (h) ADMINISTRATION.—A unit of local government
12 may use one or more outside persons or entities to admin-
13 ister the volunteer project. In such a case, the unit of local
14 government shall designate a single person to serve as the
15 head of administration.

16 (i) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—The grant amounts
17 provided under the program shall include amounts to pro-
18 vide benefits to participants and amounts for the adminis-
19 tration of the volunteer project.

20 (j) ACCOUNTABILITY.—A unit of local government
21 shall institute explicit, measurable goals for assessing
22 whether the volunteer project is successful.

23 (k) SCHOLARSHIP LIMITATION.—Scholarships to in-
24 stitutions of higher education to which the unit of local

- 1 government does not contribute funds shall not exceed 50
- 2 percent of the scholarship funds disbursed in a given year.

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