

THE AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT

Minority-Specific Provisions

(Updated April 2, 2009)

Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) Preservation Grants (Title VII)

- \$15 million for the Historic Preservation Fund for historically black colleges and universities. The goal of this grant program is to make historic properties on the campuses of HBCUs safe and useable. Eligible activities include structural stabilization; masonry work; abating environmental hazards; installing or replacing heating, ventilating, and cooling systems; replacing damaged electrical and plumbing systems; repairing leaky roofs; treating termite damage; and providing handicapped accessibility. This program is administered by the Department of Interior.

Bureau of the Census (Title II)

- \$1 billion to ensure a successful 2010 Decennial Census. In particular, the ARRA funds shall be used to hire new personnel for partnership and outreach efforts to minority communities and hard-to-reach populations, increase targeted media purchases, and ensure proper management of other operational and programmatic risks.

Digital to Analog Converter Box Program (Title II)

- \$90 million may be for education and outreach, including grants to organizations for programs to educate vulnerable populations, including senior citizens, minority communities, people with disabilities, low-income individuals, and people living in rural areas, about the transition and to provide one-on-one assistance to vulnerable populations, including help with converter box installation.

Maintenance of Effort Requirement for State Fiscal Stabilization Funds (Title XIV)

- ACHIEVING EQUITY IN TEACHER DISTRIBUTION - The State will take actions to improve teacher effectiveness and comply with section 111(b)(8)(C) of the ESEA (20 U.S.C.6311 (b) (8) (C)) in order to address inequities in the distribution of highly qualified teachers between high- and low-poverty schools, and to ensure that low-income and minority children are not taught at higher rates than other children by inexperienced, unqualified, or out-of-field teachers.

Transportation Set Asides (Title XII)

- \$20 million shall be for highway surface transportation and technology training under section 140(b) of title 23, United States Code. According to the joint explanatory statement issued by the conference committee, this includes job training focused on minorities, women and the socially and economically disadvantaged.
- \$20 million shall be for disadvantaged business enterprises bonding assistance under section 332(e) of title 49, United States Code. According to the joint explanatory statement issued by the conference committee, this includes minority businesses.
- \$310 million for the Indian Reservation Roads program.

Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (Title VI)

- One of the purposes of the program is to provide broadband education, awareness, training, access, equipment, and support to organizations and agencies that provide outreach, access, equipment, and support services to facilitate greater use of broadband service by low-income, unemployed, aged, and otherwise vulnerable populations.

- In providing grants, the secretary shall consider whether the applicant is a socially and economically disadvantaged small business concern as defined under section 8(a) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 637). - All determinations made pursuant to paragraph (5) with respect to whether a group has been subjected to prejudice or bias shall be made by the Administrator after consultation with the Associate Administrator for Minority Small Business and Capital Ownership Development. All other determinations made pursuant to paragraphs (4), (5), (6), and (7) shall be made by the Associate Administrator for Minority Small Business and Capital Ownership Development under the supervision of, and responsible to, the Administrator.
- The Secretary of the Treasury shall make a grant to the housing credit agency of each State in an amount equal to such State's low-income housing grant election amount.

Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (Title I)

- \$5 million for the costs relating to facility improvements and equipment upgrades associated with the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations, as established under section 4(b) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2013(b)). Administrative cost-sharing requirements are not applicable to funds provided in accordance with this provision.

State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance for Indian tribes (Title II)

- \$225 million for State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance to Indian tribes, notwithstanding Public Law 108-199, division B, title I, section 112(a)(1) (118 Stat. 62), which shall be available for grants under section 20109 of subtitle A of title II of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 (Public Law 103-322).

Community Development Financial Institutions Fund Program Account (Title V)

- \$8 million for financial assistance, technical assistance, training and outreach programs designed to benefit Native American, Native Hawaiian, and Alaskan Native communities and provided primarily through qualified community development lender organizations with experience and expertise in community development banking and lending in Indian country, Native American organizations, tribes and tribal organizations and other suitable providers and up to \$2,000,000 may be used for administrative expenses.

Bureau of Indian Affairs (Title VII)

- \$40 million for workforce training programs and the housing improvement program.
- \$340 million for repair and restoration of roads; replacement school construction; school improvements and repairs; and detention center maintenance and repairs. That section 1606 of this Act shall not apply to tribal contracts entered into by the Bureau of Indian Affairs with this appropriation.
- \$10 million for the Indian Guaranteed Loan Program Account.

State and Tribal Assistance Grants - Clean Water State Revolving Fund (Title VII)

- Up to 4 percent of the funds appropriated herein for tribal set-asides under the Revolving Funds may be transferred to the Indian Health Service to support management and oversight of tribal projects.

Department of Health and Human Services - Indian Health Services (Title VII)

- \$85 million for Indian Health Services for health information technology activities. Such funds may be used for both telehealth services development and related infrastructure

requirements that are typically funded through the “Indian Health Facilities” account. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, health information technology funds provided within this title shall be allocated at the discretion of the Director of the Indian Health Service.

Department of Health and Human Services - Indian Health Services (Title VII)

- \$415 million for facilities construction projects, deferred maintenance and improvement projects, the backlog of sanitation projects and the purchase of equipment, of which \$227 million is provided within the health facilities construction activity for the completion of up to two facilities from the current priority list for which work has already been initiated.

Native American Housing Block Grants (Title XII)

- Under the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (NAHASDA), \$510 million is allocated until September 30, 2011, with \$255 million to be distributed using the funding formula for FY2008 and \$255 million for competitive grants to eligible entities. Recipients of funds shall obligate 100 percent of funds within 1 year which funds are made available to a recipient, expend at least 50 percent of funds within 2 years and expend 100 percent of funds within 3 years.

Other Indian-Related Provisions

- There are also provisions regarding Indian tribes and health information technology, tribal economic bonds, special allocations for Indian schools as it relates to school construction bonds. There are protections provided for Indians under Medicaid and SCHIP.