

**As Introduced**

**133rd General Assembly  
Regular Session  
2019-2020**

**H. B. No. 578**

**Representative Smith, K.**

**Cosponsors: Representatives Sobecki, Miller, J., Boggs, Brent, Liston, Galonski,  
Patterson, Lightbody, Howse, Weinstein, Lepore-Hagan, O'Brien, West**

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**A BILL**

To make an appropriation to support homeless 1  
shelters in the state and to provide emergency 2  
rental assistance in response to the COVID-19 3  
pandemic, and to declare an emergency. 4

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:**

**Section 1.** All items in this section are hereby 5  
appropriated as designated out of any moneys in the state 6  
treasury to the credit of the designated fund. For all 7  
appropriations made in this act, those in the first column are 8  
for fiscal year 2020 and those in the second column are for 9  
fiscal year 2021. The appropriations made in this act are in 10  
addition to any other appropriations made for the FY 2020-FY 11  
2021 biennium. 12

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HFA OHIO HOUSING FINANCE AGENCY

B	General Revenue Fund						
C	GRF	997XXX	Homelessness and Rental Assistance	\$	20,000,000	\$	0
D	TOTAL GRF General Revenue Fund			\$	20,000,000	\$	0
E	TOTAL ALL BUDGET FUND GROUPS			\$	20,000,000	\$	0

HOMELESSNESS AND RENTAL ASSISTANCE 14

The foregoing appropriation item 997XXX, Homelessness and Rental Assistance, shall be used by the Ohio Housing Finance Agency to support homeless shelters in the state and to provide emergency rental assistance needed because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Ohio Housing Finance Agency shall develop rules to establish an emergency rental assistance program that supports individuals affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and any of the Director of Health's orders under section 3701.13 of the Revised Code issued on March 9, 2020, and after. 15  
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**Section 2.** Within the limits set forth in this act, the Director of Budget and Management shall establish accounts indicating the source and amount of funds for each appropriation made in this act, and shall determine the form and manner in which appropriation accounts shall be maintained. Expenditures from appropriations contained in this act shall be accounted for as though made in the main operating appropriations act of the 133rd General Assembly. 24  
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The appropriations made in this act are subject to all provisions of H.B. 166 of the 133rd General Assembly that are generally applicable to such appropriations. 32  
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**Section 3.** This act is hereby declared to be an emergency 35  
measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public 36  
peace, health, and safety. The reason for such necessity is the 37  
COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on the state's homeless 38  
population and renters who are at risk of losing housing because 39  
of economic hardship caused by the disease. Therefore, this act 40  
shall go into immediate effect. 41