

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5700

To provide additional housing protections for survivors of domestic violence,
and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 6, 2025

Mrs. SYKES introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee
on Financial Services

A BILL

To provide additional housing protections for survivors of
domestic violence, 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 “Break Free From Do-
5 mestic Violence Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON THE IMPOSITION OF FEES FOR**
7 **EARLY LEASE TERMINATION.**

8 Section 41411 of the Violence Against Women Act
9 of 1994 (34 U.S.C. 12491) is amended by adding at the
10 end the following:

1 “(h) PROHIBITION ON THE IMPOSITION OF FEES FOR
2 EARLY LEASE TERMINATION.—

3 “(1) VOLUNTARY EXIT.—An applicant for or
4 tenant of housing assisted under a covered housing
5 program may voluntarily exit a lease for housing
6 earlier than the end date of such lease on the basis
7 that the applicant or tenant has been a victim of do-
8 mestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or
9 stalking.

10 “(2) FEE PROHIBITION.—Notwithstanding any
11 lease agreement, an applicant or tenant described in
12 paragraph (1) may not be charged a fee for exiting
13 a lease for housing earlier than the end date of such
14 lease on the basis described in paragraph (1).”.

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