

As Introduced

131st General Assembly

Regular Session

2015-2016

H. B. No. 293

Representatives Grossman, Stinziano

A BILL

To enact section 122.631 of the Revised Code to
create the Home Accessibility Grant Program to
be administered by the Director of Development
Services, and to make an appropriation. 1
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BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That section 122.631 of the Revised Code be
enacted to read as follows: 5
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Sec. 122.631. (A) The director of development services
shall administer the home accessibility grant program. Under the
program, the director shall make grants to applicants as
follows: 7
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(1) An applicant that renovates the applicant's existing
residence, if the renovation is designed to improve
accessibility and provide universal visitability under
guidelines established by the director. The amount of such a
grant shall equal fifty per cent of the total cost of the
renovation, not to exceed five thousand dollars for the
renovation of each existing residence. 11
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(2) An applicant that purchases or constructs a new
residence or a contractor that incurs costs in constructing a 18
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new residential structure, if the new residence or residential 20
structure includes designs that will provide accessibility and 21
universal visitability under guidelines established by the 22
director. The amount of such a grant shall equal the purchase 23
price of the new residence or the costs incurred in constructing 24
the new residence or new residential structure, not to exceed 25
five thousand dollars for the purchase or construction of each 26
new residence or new residential structure. An applicant 27
purchases a new residence for purposes of a grant if the 28
transaction involves the first sale of the new residence to the 29
purchaser, and the purchaser intends to reside in the residence. 30

(B) An applicant is not eligible for a grant under the 31
home accessibility grant program for the purchase, construction, 32
or renovation of residential rental property. 33

(C) In each calendar year, the total amount of grants that 34
may be awarded under the home accessibility grant program is one 35
million dollars. Of that amount, the total amount of grants that 36
may be awarded under division (A) (1) of this section in each 37
calendar year is six hundred thousand dollars, and the total 38
amount of grants that may be awarded under division (A) (2) of 39
this section in each calendar year is four hundred thousand 40
dollars. 41

(D) An eligible applicant shall apply for a grant under 42
the home accessibility grant program by submitting an 43
application to the director of development services. The 44
director shall prescribe the form of the application. Upon 45
receipt of an application, the director shall approve the 46
application if each of the following apply: 47

(1) The application includes or is accompanied by 48
sufficient documentation of the applicant's eligibility for a 49

grant; 50

(2) The total amounts prescribed in division (C) of this 51
section have not been reached with regard to the grant for which 52
the applicant is applying in the calendar year in which the 53
application is received; 54

(3) The agency has not previously approved a grant 55
application relating to the same residence or residential 56
structure; and 57

(4) The grant application does not relate to a transaction 58
between an applicant and a member of the applicant's family, as 59
defined in section 5747.011 of the Revised Code, or between a 60
pass-through entity and a person that holds, directly or 61
indirectly, an ownership interest in the entity. 62

(E) The director of development services, by rule adopted 63
under Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, shall establish 64
guidelines for designs that provide or improve accessibility and 65
universal visitability in residences and residential structures 66
for purposes of the home accessibility grant program. In 67
establishing the guidelines, the director may consult engineers, 68
contractors, and other individuals having expertise or 69
experience in accessible and visitable design. 70

Section 2. All items in this section are hereby 71
appropriated as designated out of any moneys in the state 72
treasury to the credit of the designated fund. For all 73
appropriations made in this act, those in the first column are 74
for fiscal year 2016 and those in the second column are for 75
fiscal year 2017. The appropriations made in this act are in 76
addition to any other appropriations made for the FY 2016-FY 77
2017 biennium. 78

DEV DEVELOPMENT SERVICES AGENCY				79
General Revenue Fund				80
GRF 195XXX Home Accessibility Grant Program	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000		81
Total GRF General Revenue Fund	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000		82
TOTAL ALL BUDGET FUND GROUPS	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000		83
HOME ACCESSIBILITY GRANT PROGRAM				84
The foregoing appropriation item 195XXX, Home				85
Accessibility Grant Program, shall be used for the Home				86
Accessibility Grant Program as described in section 122.631 of				87
the Revised Code.				88
Section 3. Within the limits set forth in this act, the				89
Director of Budget and Management shall establish accounts				90
indicating the source and amount of funds for each appropriation				91
made in this act and shall determine the form and manner in				92
which appropriation accounts shall be maintained. Expenditures				93
from appropriations contained in this act shall be accounted for				94
as though made in the main operating appropriations act of the				95
131st General Assembly.				96
The appropriations made in this act are subject to all				97
provisions of the main operating appropriations act of the 131st				98
General Assembly that are generally applicable to such				99
appropriations.				100
Section 4. Sections 2, 3, and 4 of this act are exempt				101
from the referendum under Ohio Constitution, Article II, section				102
1d and take immediate effect.				103