

SEC. 1002. EMERGENCY **RURAL DEVELOPMENT** GRANTS FOR RURAL HEALTH CARE.

(a) GRANTS.—The Secretary of Agriculture (in this section referred to as the “Secretary”) shall use the funds made available by this section to establish an emergency pilot program **for rural development** not later than 150 days after the date of enactment of this Act to provide grants to eligible applicants (as defined in section 3570.61(a) of title 7, Code 15 of Federal Regulations) to be awarded by the Secretary based on needs related to the COVID–19 pandemic.

(b) USES.—An eligible applicant to whom a grant is awarded under this section may use the grant funds for costs, including those incurred prior to the issuance of the grant, as determined by the Secretary, ~~on~~ **of** facilities which primarily serve rural areas (as defined in section 22 343(a)(13)(C) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1991(a)(13)(C)), which are located in a rural area, the median household income of the population to be served by which is less than the greater of the poverty line or the applicable percentage (determined under section 3570.63(b) of title 7, Code of Federal Regulations) of the State nonmetropolitan median household income, and for which the performance of construction work shall meet the condition set forth in section 9003(f) 6 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 7 (7 U.S.C. 8103(f)), to—

- (1) increase capacity for vaccine distribution;
- (2) provide ~~drugs or~~ medical supplies to increase medical surge capacity;
- (3) reimburse for ~~COVID–19 related expenses and lost revenue to maintain capacity, including expenses and revenue lost during the COVID-19 pandemic, including~~ revenue losses incurred prior to the awarding of the grant;
- (4) increase telehealth capabilities, including underlying health care information systems;
- (5) construct temporary or permanent structures to provide health care services, including vaccine administration or testing;
- (6) support staffing needs for vaccine administration or testing; and
- (7) engage in any other efforts **to support rural development** determined to be critical to address the COVID–19 pandemic, including nutritional assistance to vulnerable individuals, as approved by the Secretary.

(c) FUNDING.—In addition to amounts otherwise available, there is appropriated to the Secretary for fiscal year 2021, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, \$500,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2023, to carry out this section, of which not more than 3 percent may be used by the Secretary for administrative purposes and not more than 2 percent may be used by the Secretary for technical assistance as defined in section 306(a)(26) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1926(a)(26)).