To clarify that the Secretary of Health and Human Services has authority to implement a residential eviction moratorium under the quarantine authority vested by the Public Health Service Act, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. Bush introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on ______________________

A BILL

To clarify that the Secretary of Health and Human Services has authority to implement a residential eviction moratorium under the quarantine authority vested by the Public Health Service Act, and for other purposes.

1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

3 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Keeping Renters Safe Act of 2021”.

(Original Signature of Member)
SEC. 2. CLARIFICATION HHS HAS AUTHORITY FOR RESIDENTIAL EVICTION MORATORIA.

Section 361 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 264) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (e) as subsection (f); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (d) the following:

“(e) Consistent with the standard described in subsection (a), regulations under this section may implement, maintain, or extend a residential eviction moratorium.”.

SEC. 3. COVID–19 EVICTION MORATORIUM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall implement a national residential eviction moratorium under section 361 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 264) to reduce the introduction, transmission, and spread of COVID–19 and otherwise address the public health emergency declared under section 319 of the such Act (42 U.S.C. 247d) with respect to COVID–19.

(b) APPLICABILITY.—The moratorium under subsection (a) shall—

(1) be automatic, without requiring individuals to apply for coverage; and

(2) apply to all residential eviction filings, hearings, judgments, and execution of judgments, except
that the Secretary of Health and Human Services
can establish moratorium exceptions necessary to
protect the health and safety of others.

(c) Period Following Public Health Emergency.—The moratorium under subsection (a) shall re-
main in effect at least 60 days after the conclusion of the
public health emergency described in such subsection, in-
cluding any extensions thereof.