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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

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

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

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”.

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

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

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

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

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