

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6553

To amend the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 to require consultation with State and local elected officials and a public hearing before awarding grants or contracts for housing facilities for unaccompanied alien children.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 26, 2018

Mr. OLSON (for himself, Mr. SMITH of Texas, and Mr. POE of Texas) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 to require consultation with State and local elected officials and a public hearing before awarding grants or contracts for housing facilities for unaccompanied alien children.

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 “Our Communities, Our
5 Choices Act of 2018”.

1 **SEC. 2. REQUIRING CONSULTATION WITH STATE AND**
2 **LOCAL ELECTED OFFICIALS AND A PUBLIC**
3 **HEARING BEFORE AWARDING GRANTS OR**
4 **CONTRACTS FOR HOUSING FACILITIES FOR**
5 **UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHILDREN.**

6 Section 235(i) of the William Wilberforce Trafficking
7 Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C.
8 1232(i)) is amended by adding at the end the following:
9 “Before awarding any grant or contract under this sub-
10 section that provide for housing of unaccompanied alien
11 children in a facility that is not on property of the Federal
12 Government, the Secretary shall—

13 “(1) consult with State and local elected offi-
14 cials regarding the location of the facility as well as
15 the duration of the award and the safety, security,
16 and funding of the facility; and

17 “(2) conduct a public hearing, no earlier than
18 90 days after the announcement of a potential loca-
19 tion for such facility, for which—

20 “(A) advance public notice has been pro-
21 vided, in mediums available for general circula-
22 tion in the proposed jurisdiction, at least 10
23 days before the date of the hearing; and

24 “(B) a representative of the Department of
25 Health and Human Services is in attendance in

- 1 an official capacity for the purpose of receiving
- 2 public comments.”.

