Title Chat

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A Christmas Present From Congress and the President

President Bush and Congress gave first time homebuyers who qualify the ability to obtain downpayment assistance grants toward the purchase of a principal residence when the President signed the "American Dream Downpayment Act" (the Act) last month. The grants will provide low-income families who qualify assistance in amounts not to exceed the greater of either 6% of the purchase price or $10,000. The funds can be used for the downpayment and/or toward repairs identified at time of closing which are made within one year.

There are conditions which restrict the amount of funds that will be available to a State or to organizations that also provide downpayment assistance if the assistance is financed in whole or in part by the sellers of the housing.

$200 million is authorized to be appropriated for each of the fiscal years 2004 through 2007.

The American Dream Down Payment Initiative has set up a website which can be found at: http://www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/affordablehousing/programs/home/addi/index.cfm

You can also view a summary of the announcement of the Act on the ALTA web site at: http://www.alta.org

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