

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 10087

To amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to provide for certain procedures following the declaration of a major disaster, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 1, 2024

Ms. FOXX (for herself, Mr. GRIFFITH, and Mr. McCORMICK) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to provide for certain procedures following the declaration of a major disaster, 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 “Disaster Recovery and
5 Resilience Act of 2024”.

6 **SEC. 2. MAJOR DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.**

7 (a) APPLICATION OF OTHER LAWS.—Title IV of the
8 Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assist-

1 ance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170 et seq.) is amended by adding
2 at the end the following:

3 **“SEC. 431. APPLICATION OF OTHER LAWS.**

4 “(a) JONES ACT.—Notwithstanding sections 12103,
5 12112, and 55102 of title 46, United States Code, the
6 Secretary of the department in which the Coast Guard is
7 operating shall exempt a vessel from the requirements of
8 such sections if the Secretary determines that the owner
9 or operator of the vessel has reasonably demonstrated that
10 the exemption is needed to provide disaster relief to an
11 area affected by a major disaster declared under this title
12 for a period of 180 days after the declaration of such
13 major disaster.

14 “(b) DAVIS-BACON ACT.—With respect to a major
15 disaster declared under this title, any requirement under
16 subchapter IV of chapter 31 of title 40, United States
17 Code (commonly referred to as the ‘Davis-Bacon Act’),
18 shall not apply with respect to any project carried out
19 under this title that is related to the repair of damage
20 caused by such major disaster.”.

21 (b) EMERGENCY RECOVERY BOARD.—Title IV of the
22 Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assist-
23 ance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170 et seq.) is amended by adding
24 at the end the following:

1 **“SEC. 432. EMERGENCY RECOVERY BOARD.**

2 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the
3 first declaration of a major disaster under section 401,
4 for each category of disaster in any calendar year, the
5 President shall establish a board to review the process and
6 procedures related to recovery following such category of
7 disaster.

8 “(b) MEMBERS.—Each board established under sub-
9 section (a) shall include the following members:

10 “(1) The Secretary of Transportation.

11 “(2) The Secretary of Homeland Security.

12 “(3) The Secretary of Housing and Urban De-
13 velopment.

14 “(4) The Administrator of the Federal Emer-
15 gency Management Agency.

16 “(5) The State officials in areas affected by the
17 category of disaster who are equivalent to the offi-
18 cials described in paragraphs (1) through (3).

19 “(6) Local officials in areas affected by the cat-
20 egory of disaster.

21 “(7) An employee of the House of Representa-
22 tives appointed by the Speaker in consultation with
23 the minority leader.

24 “(8) An employee of the Senate appointed by
25 the majority leader in consultation with the minority
26 leader.

1 “(c) REPORT.—

2 “(1) INITIAL REPORT.—Not later than 30 days
3 after the establishment of each board under sub-
4 section (a), such board shall submit to Congress and
5 to the heads of each agency described in paragraphs
6 (1) through (3) of subsection (b) a report providing
7 recommendations on any immediate barriers that the
8 Federal and State governments may remove to aid
9 recovery.

10 “(2) SECONDARY REPORT.—Not later than 90
11 days after the establishment of each board under
12 subsection (a), such board shall submit to Congress
13 a report providing recommendations on any legisla-
14 tive or regulatory changes to aid in the recovery of
15 future disasters in the category of disaster.

16 “(d) CATEGORY OF DISASTER DEFINED.—In this
17 section, the term ‘category of disaster’ means each indi-
18 vidual type of disaster described in the definition of ‘major
19 disaster’ in section 102 of this Act.”.

20 (e) HAZARD MITIGATION.—Section 404(d)(1) of the
21 Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assist-
22 ance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170c(d)(1)) is amended—

23 (1) in subparagraph (A)—

24 (A) by striking “that applicable environ-
25 mental reviews” and inserting the following:

1 “(i) that applicable environmental re-
2 views”; and

3 (B) by adding at the end the following:

4 “(ii) compliance with any applicable
5 requirements under the Federal Water Pol-
6 lution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251 et
7 seq.), the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401
8 et seq.), and the Endangered Species Act
9 of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.); and”;
10 and

11 (2) in subparagraph (B) by inserting “, the
12 Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C.
13 1251 et seq.), the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401
14 et seq.), and the Endangered Species Act of 1973
15 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.),” after “1969”.

16 (d) REPAIR, RESTORATION, AND REPLACEMENT OF
17 DAMAGED FACILITIES.—Section 406 of the Robert T.
18 Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act
19 (42 U.S.C. 5172) is amended by adding at the end the
20 following:

21 “(f) ALLOWANCE FOR PRESCHEDULED TECHNO-
22 LOGICAL IMPROVEMENTS.—

23 “(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of the repair,
24 restoration, reconstruction, or replacement of a facil-
25 ity carried out under this section, the President shall

1 install any prescheduled technological improvement
2 to such facility during any such repair, restoration,
3 reconstruction, or replacement.

4 “(2) PRESCHEDULED TECHNOLOGICAL IM-
5 PROVEMENT DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term
6 ‘prescheduled technological improvement’ means a
7 technological improvement to a facility that was
8 scheduled, procured, and had funding set aside for
9 installation before the major disaster declaration.”.

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