

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7329

To amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to authorize funding for emergency management performance grants to provide for domestic preparedness and collective response to major disasters, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 10, 2008

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Homeland Security, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to authorize funding for emergency management performance grants to provide for domestic preparedness and collective response to major disasters, 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. MAJOR DISASTER DEFINITION.**

4 (a) EXPANSION OF DEFINITION OF “MAJOR DIS-
5 ASTER”.—Paragraph (2) of section 102 of the Robert T.
6 Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act

1 (42 U.S.C. 5122) (relating to the definition of the term
 2 “major disaster”) is amended by inserting “catastrophic
 3 incident (as defined in section 501(3) of title 6, United
 4 States Code),” after “),”.

5 **SEC. 2. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE**
 6 **GRANTS.**

7 Subtitle B of title VI of the Robert T. Stafford Dis-
 8 aster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C.
 9 5197 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
 10 lowing:

11 **“SEC. 630. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE**
 12 **GRANTS.**

13 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the Fed-
 14 eral Emergency Management Agency shall establish an
 15 emergency management performance grants program (in
 16 this section referred to as the ‘program’) to carry out the
 17 provisions of this title and section 201 to address domestic
 18 preparedness and collective response to major disasters.

19 “(b) FEDERAL SHARE.—Except as otherwise specifi-
 20 cally provided by this Act, the Federal share of the cost
 21 of an activity carried out using funds made available under
 22 the program shall not exceed 50 percent.

23 “(c) APPORTIONMENT.—For fiscal year 2009 and
 24 each fiscal year thereafter, the Administrator shall appor-

1 tion the amounts appropriated to carry out the program
2 among the States as follows:

3 “(1) BASELINE AMOUNT.—With respect to a
4 fiscal year for which amounts have been appro-
5 priated in accordance with subsection (d), the Ad-
6 ministrator shall first apportion 0.25 percent of such
7 amounts to each of American Samoa, the Common-
8 wealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, and
9 the Virgin Islands and 0.75 of such amounts to each
10 of the remaining States.

11 “(2) REMAINDER.—With respect to such fiscal
12 year, the Administrator shall apportion the remain-
13 der of such amounts in the ratio that the population
14 of each State bears to the population of all States.

15 “(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
16 is authorized to be appropriated to carry out the program
17 \$535,000,000 for fiscal year 2009, \$680,000,000 for fis-
18 cal year 2010, and \$815,000,000 for fiscal year 2011.
19 Such sums shall remain available until expended.

20 “(e) MAJOR DISASTER.—The term ‘major disaster’
21 has the meaning given such term in section 102(2).”.

1 **SEC. 3. CONSTRUCTION OF EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CEN-**
2 **TERS.**

3 Section 614 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief
4 and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5196c) is
5 amended to read as follows:

6 **“SEC. 614. CONSTRUCTION OF EMERGENCY OPERATIONS**
7 **CENTERS.**

8 “(a) GRANTS.—The Administrator of the Federal
9 Emergency Management Agency may make grants to
10 States under this title for equipping, upgrading, and con-
11 structing emergency operations centers for domestic pre-
12 paredness and collective response to a major disaster.

13 “(b) FEDERAL SHARE.—Notwithstanding any other
14 provision of this title, the Federal share of the cost of an
15 activity carried out using amounts from grants made
16 under this section shall not exceed 75 percent.

17 “(c) MAJOR DISASTER DEFINED.—In this section
18 the term ‘major disaster’ has the meaning given such term
19 in section 102(2).”.

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