

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 385

To amend chapter 11 of title 31, United States Code, to require the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to annually submit to Congress a report on all disaster-related assistance provided by the Federal Government.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 14, 2015

Mr. PETERS (for himself, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. TONKO, and Mr. ISRAEL) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To amend chapter 11 of title 31, United States Code, to require the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to annually submit to Congress a report on all disaster-related assistance provided by the Federal Government.

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 “Disclosing Aid Spent
5 to Ensure Relief Act” or the “DISASTER Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

1 (1) At a time of constrained budgets, it is fis-
2 cally prudent to understand the amount and the
3 scope of the Federal Government’s involvement in
4 providing disaster-related assistance to communities
5 in need.

6 (2) The Federal Government does not provide
7 a single, publicly available estimate of the amount it
8 is spending on disaster-related assistance.

9 (3) Because recovery is a long-term process,
10 providing disaster-related assistance requires signifi-
11 cant Federal resources to support a multi-agency,
12 multi-year restoration of infrastructure and com-
13 merce in affected communities.

14 (4) Understanding the expenditures of indi-
15 vidual Federal agencies for disaster-related assist-
16 ance will help better inform the congressional appro-
17 priations process, as well as presidential budget re-
18 quests.

19 (5) Knowledge about disaster-related expenses
20 will illustrate opportunities for reducing these ex-
21 penses through efforts to reduce vulnerabilities to
22 future natural disasters.

23 **SEC. 3. PURPOSE.**

24 The purpose of this Act is to require the Director
25 of the Office of Management and Budget to annually sub-

1 mit to Congress a report on all disaster-related assistance
2 provided by the Federal Government.

3 **SEC. 4. REPORTING OF DISASTER-RELATED ASSISTANCE.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 11 of title 31, United
5 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
6 lowing new section:

7 **“§ 1126. Reporting of disaster-related assistance**

8 “(a) IN GENERAL.—On the same day that the Presi-
9 dent makes the annual budget submission to the Congress
10 under section 1105(a) for a fiscal year, the Director of
11 the Office of Management and Budget shall submit to
12 Congress a report on Federal disaster-related assistance
13 for the fiscal year ending in the calendar year immediately
14 preceding the calendar year in which the annual budget
15 submission is made. Disaster-related assistance encom-
16 passes Federal obligations related to disaster response, re-
17 covery, and mitigation efforts, as well as administrative
18 costs associated with these activities, including spending
19 by the following agencies and programs:

20 “(1) Department of Agriculture:

21 “(A) Agriculture Research Service.

22 “(B) Farm Service Agency.

23 “(C) Food and Nutrition Service.

24 “(D) Natural Resource Conservation Serv-

25 ice.

1 “(E) Forest Service.

2 “(F) Rural Housing Service.

3 “(G) Rural Utilities Service.

4 “(2) Department of Commerce:

5 “(A) National Marine Fisheries Service of
6 the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admin-
7 istration.

8 “(B) Economic Development Administra-
9 tion Economic Adjustment Assistance.

10 “(3) Army Corps of Engineers of the Depart-
11 ment of Defense (Civil).

12 “(4) Department of Defense (Military):

13 “(A) Military Personnel.

14 “(B) Operations and Maintenance.

15 “(C) Procurement.

16 “(D) Research, Development, Test, and
17 Evaluation.

18 “(E) Military Construction (MILCON) and
19 Family Housing.

20 “(F) Management Funds.

21 “(G) Other Department of Defense Pro-
22 grams.

23 “(5) Department of Education:

24 “(A) Elementary and Secondary Edu-
25 cation.

1 “(B) Higher Education.

2 “(6) Department of Health and Human Serv-
3 ices:

4 “(A) Administration for Children and
5 Families.

6 “(B) Public Health and Medical Assist-
7 ance.

8 “(C) Public Health Emergency Fund.

9 “(7) Department of Homeland Security:

10 “(A) Federal Emergency Management
11 Agency:

12 “(i) Emergency Declarations.

13 “(ii) Fire Management Assistance
14 Grants.

15 “(iii) Major Disaster Declarations.

16 “(iv) Administrative Assistance.

17 “(B) FEMA Missions Assignments by
18 Federal Agency.

19 “(C) Community Disaster Loan Program.

20 “(8) Department of Housing and Urban Devel-
21 opment (HUD):

22 “(A) Community Development Block
23 Grants.

24 “(B) Rental Assistance/Section 8 Vouch-
25 ers.

1 “(C) Supportive Housing.

2 “(D) Public Housing Repair.

3 “(E) Inspector General.

4 “(9) Department of the Interior:

5 “(A) Bureau of Indian Affairs.

6 “(B) United States Fish and Wildlife Serv-
7 ice.

8 “(C) National Park Service.

9 “(D) Wildland Fire Management.

10 “(10) Department of Justice:

11 “(A) Legal Activities.

12 “(B) United States Marshals Service.

13 “(C) Federal Bureau of Investigation.

14 “(D) Drug Enforcement Administration.

15 “(E) Bureau of Tobacco, Firearms, and
16 Explosives.

17 “(F) Federal Prison System (Bureau of
18 Prisons).

19 “(G) Office of Justice Programs.

20 “(11) Department of Labor:

21 “(A) National Emergency Grants for Dis-
22 location Events.

23 “(B) Workforce Investment Act (WIA)
24 Dislocated Worker Program.

25 “(12) Department of Transportation:

1 “(A) Federal Highway Administration:
2 Emergency Relief Program (ER).

3 “(B) Federal Aviation Administration
4 (FAA).

5 “(C) Federal Transit Administration
6 (FTA).

7 “(13) Department of the Treasury: Internal
8 Revenue Service.

9 “(14) Department of Veterans Affairs.

10 “(15) Corporation for National and Community
11 Service.

12 “(16) Environmental Protection Agency:

13 “(A) Hurricane Emergency Response Au-
14 thorities.

15 “(B) EPA Hurricane Response.

16 “(C) EPA Regular Appropriations.

17 “(17) The Federal Judiciary.

18 “(18) Disaster Assistance Program of the Small
19 Business Administration.

20 “(19) Other authorities as appropriate.

21 “(b) CONTENT.—The report shall detail the fol-
22 lowing:

23 “(1) Overall amount of disaster-related assist-
24 ance obligations during the fiscal year.

1 “(2) Disaster-related assistance obligations by
2 agency and account.

3 “(3) Disaster for which the spending was obli-
4 gated.

5 “(4) Obligations by disaster.

6 “(5) Disaster-related assistance by disaster
7 type.

8 “(6) Response and recovery spending.

9 “(7) Mitigation spending.

10 “(8) Spending in the form of loans.

11 “(9) Spending in the form of grants.

12 “(c) AVAILABILITY OF REPORT.—The report shall be
13 made publicly available on the website of the Office of
14 Management and Budget and should be searchable, sort-
15 able and downloadable.”.

16 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of chap-
17 ters for chapter 11 of title 31, United States Code, is
18 amended by adding at the end the following new item:

“1126. Reporting of disaster-related assistance.”.

19 **SEC. 5. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

20 The reporting requirement under the amendment
21 made by section 3(a) shall take effect with the budget sub-
22 mission of the President under section 1105(a) of title 31,
23 United States Code, for fiscal year 2018.

○