

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1984

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

MARCH 28, 2019

Mr. PETERS (for himself, Mr. MEADOWS, Mr. CISNEROS, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana, Mr. HARDER of California, Ms. HILL of California, Mrs. MCBATH, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. ROUDA, Mr. TONKO, and Mr. WEBER of Texas) 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”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress finds the following:

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

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

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

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

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

1 **SEC. 3. PURPOSE.**

2 The purpose of this Act is to require the Director
3 of the Office of Management and Budget to annually sub-
4 mit to Congress a report on all disaster-related assistance
5 provided by the Federal Government.

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

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

10 **“§ 1127. Reporting of disaster-related assistance**

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

23 “(1) Department of Agriculture:

24 “(A) Agriculture Research Service.

25 “(B) Farm Service Agency.

26 “(C) Food and Nutrition Service.

1 “(D) Natural Resource Conservation Serv-
2 ice.

3 “(E) Forest Service.

4 “(F) Rural Housing Service.

5 “(G) Rural Utilities Service.

6 “(2) Department of Commerce:

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

10 “(B) Economic Development Administra-
11 tion Economic Adjustment Assistance.

12 “(3) Army Corps of Engineers of the Depart-
13 ment of Defense (Civil).

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

15 “(A) Military Personnel.

16 “(B) Operations and Maintenance.

17 “(C) Procurement.

18 “(D) Research, Development, Test, and
19 Evaluation.

20 “(E) Military Construction (MILCON) and
21 Family Housing.

22 “(F) Management Funds.

23 “(G) Other Department of Defense Pro-
24 grams.

25 “(5) Department of Education:

1 “(A) Elementary and Secondary Edu-
2 cation.

3 “(B) Higher Education.

4 “(6) Department of Health and Human Serv-
5 ices:

6 “(A) Administration for Children and
7 Families.

8 “(B) Public Health and Medical Assist-
9 ance.

10 “(C) Public Health Emergency Fund.

11 “(7) Department of Homeland Security:

12 “(A) Federal Emergency Management
13 Agency:

14 “(i) Emergency Declarations.

15 “(ii) Fire Management Assistance
16 Grants.

17 “(iii) Major Disaster Declarations.

18 “(iv) Administrative Assistance.

19 “(B) FEMA Missions Assignments by
20 Federal Agency.

21 “(C) Community Disaster Loan Program.

22 “(8) Department of Housing and Urban Devel-
23 opment (HUD):

24 “(A) Community Development Block
25 Grants.

1 “(B) Rental Assistance/Section 8 Vouch-
2 ers.

3 “(C) Supportive Housing.

4 “(D) Public Housing Repair.

5 “(E) Inspector General.

6 “(9) Department of the Interior:

7 “(A) Bureau of Indian Affairs.

8 “(B) United States Fish and Wildlife Serv-
9 ice.

10 “(C) National Park Service.

11 “(D) Wildland Fire Management.

12 “(10) Department of Justice:

13 “(A) Legal Activities.

14 “(B) United States Marshals Service.

15 “(C) Federal Bureau of Investigation.

16 “(D) Drug Enforcement Administration.

17 “(E) Bureau of Tobacco, Firearms, and
18 Explosives.

19 “(F) Federal Prison System (Bureau of
20 Prisons).

21 “(G) Office of Justice Programs.

22 “(11) Department of Labor:

23 “(A) National Emergency Grants for Dis-
24 location Events.

1 “(B) Workforce Investment Act (WIA)
2 Dislocated Worker Program.

3 “(12) Department of Transportation:

4 “(A) Federal Highway Administration:
5 Emergency Relief Program (ER).

6 “(B) Federal Aviation Administration
7 (FAA).

8 “(C) Federal Transit Administration
9 (FTA).

10 “(13) Department of the Treasury: Internal
11 Revenue Service.

12 “(14) Department of Veterans Affairs.

13 “(15) Corporation for National and Community
14 Service.

15 “(16) Environmental Protection Agency:

16 “(A) Hurricane Emergency Response Au-
17 thorities.

18 “(B) EPA Hurricane Response.

19 “(C) EPA Regular Appropriations.

20 “(17) The Federal Judiciary.

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

23 “(19) Department of Energy:

24 “(A) Office of Cybersecurity, Energy Secu-
25 rity, and Emergency Response.

1 “(B) Office of Petroleum Services.

2 “(20) General Services Administration.

3 “(21) Other authorities as appropriate.

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

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

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

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

12 “(4) Obligations by disaster.

13 “(5) Disaster-related assistance by disaster
14 type.

15 “(6) Response and recovery spending.

16 “(7) Mitigation spending.

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

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

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

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

“1127. Reporting of disaster-related assistance.”.

1 **SEC. 5. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

2 The reporting requirement under the amendment
3 made by section 3(a) shall take effect with the budget sub-
4 mission of the President under section 1105(a) of title 31,
5 United States Code, for fiscal year 2022.

○