

116TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 5953

To amend the Disaster Recovery Reform Act of 2018 to require the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to waive certain debts owed to the United States related to covered assistance provided to an individual or household, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 25, 2020

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri (for himself, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Ms. PLASKETT, Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico, and Mr. CARBAJAL) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

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## A BILL

To amend the Disaster Recovery Reform Act of 2018 to require the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to waive certain debts owed to the United States related to covered assistance provided to an individual or household, 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 “Preventing Disaster  
5 Revictimization Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. FLEXIBILITY.**

2 Section 1216(a) of the Disaster Recovery Reform Act  
3 of 2018 (42 U.S.C. 5174a(a)) is amended—

4 (1) by amending paragraph (2)(A) to read as  
5 follows:

6 “(A) except as provided in subparagraph  
7 (B), shall—

8 “(i) waive a debt owed to the United  
9 States related to covered assistance pro-  
10 vided to an individual or household if the  
11 covered assistance was distributed based  
12 on an error by the Agency and such debt  
13 shall be construed as a hardship; and

14 “(ii) waive a debt owed to the United  
15 States related to covered assistance pro-  
16 vided to an individual or household if such  
17 assistance is subject to a claim or legal ac-  
18 tion, including in accordance with section  
19 317 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Re-  
20 lief and Emergency Assistance Act (42  
21 U.S.C. 5160); and”; and

22 (2) in paragraph (3)(B)—

23 (A) by striking “REMOVAL OF” and insert-  
24 ing “REPORT ON”; and

25 (B) in clause (ii) by striking “the authority  
26 of the Administrator to waive debt under para-

1 graph (2) shall no longer be effective” and in-  
2 sserting “the Administrator shall report to the  
3 Committee on Transportation and Infrastruc-  
4 ture of the House of Representatives and the  
5 Committee on Homeland Security and Govern-  
6 mental Affairs of the Senate actions that the  
7 Administrator will take to reduce the error  
8 rate”.

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