

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 259

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 26, 2023

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and
Governmental Affairs

AN ACT

To provide for an online repository for certain reporting
requirements for recipients of Federal disaster assist-
ance, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Post-Disaster Assist-
3 ance Online Accountability Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. SUBPAGE FOR TRANSPARENCY OF DISASTER AS-**
5 **SISTANCE.**

6 (a) **ESTABLISHMENT OF REPOSITORY FOR REPORT-**
7 **ING REQUIREMENTS.**—The Director of the Office of Man-
8 agement and Budget, in consultation with the Secretary
9 of the Treasury and the head of each covered Federal
10 agency, shall establish a subpage within the website estab-
11 lished under section 2 of the Federal Funding Account-
12 ability and Transparency Act of 2006 (31 U.S.C. 6101
13 note) to publish the information required to be made avail-
14 able to the public under this section.

15 (b) **SUBMISSION OF INFORMATION BY FEDERAL**
16 **AGENCIES.**—Not later than 30 days after the end of a
17 calendar quarter, each covered Federal agency that made
18 disaster assistance available to an eligible recipient during
19 such quarter shall, in coordination with the Director of
20 the Office of Management and Budget, make available to
21 the public on the subpage established under subsection (a)
22 the information described in subsection (c), and ensure
23 that any data asset of the agency is machine readable.

24 (c) **INFORMATION REQUIRED.**—The information de-
25 scribed in this subsection is, with respect to disaster as-
26 sistance provided by the covered Federal agency—

1 (1) the total amount of disaster assistance pro-
2 vided by the agency during such quarter;

3 (2) the amount of disaster assistance provided
4 by the agency that was expended or obligated to
5 projects or activities; and

6 (3) a detailed list of all projects or activities for
7 which disaster assistance dispersed by the agency
8 was expended, obligated, or used, including—

9 (A) the name of the project or activity;

10 (B) a description of the project or activity;

11 (C) an evaluation of the completion status
12 of the project or activity;

13 (D) any award identification number as-
14 signed to the project;

15 (E) the Catalog for Disaster Assistance
16 number assigned by the Federal Emergency
17 Management Agency;

18 (F) the location of the project, including
19 ZIP Codes; and

20 (G) any reporting requirement information
21 being collected by a covered Federal agency
22 with respect to that agency's disaster assist-
23 ance.

24 (d) GUIDANCE.—Each covered Federal agency, in co-
25 ordination with the Director of the Office of Management

1 and Budget and the Secretary of the Treasury, shall issue
2 such guidance as is necessary to meet the requirements
3 of this Act.

4 (e) AGREEMENT WITH PRIVATE ENTITY.—The Di-
5 rector, if necessary for purposes of transparency, may
6 enter into an agreement with a private entity, including
7 a nonprofit organization, to develop the subpage required
8 under this section.

9 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

10 In this Act, the following definitions apply:

11 (1) COVERED FEDERAL AGENCY.—The term
12 “covered Federal agency” means—

13 (A) any agency providing assistance under
14 the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and
15 Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et
16 seq.);

17 (B) the Small Business Administration;
18 and

19 (C) the Department of Housing and Urban
20 Development.

21 (2) DISASTER ASSISTANCE.—The term “dis-
22 aster assistance” means any funds that are made
23 available by the Federal Government in response to
24 a specified natural disaster, including—

1 (A) any assistance provided by the Admin-
2 istrator of the Small Business Administration
3 as a result of a disaster declared under section
4 7(b) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C.
5 636(b));

6 (B) any assistance provided by the Sec-
7 retary of Housing and Urban Development
8 for—

9 (i) activities authorized under title I
10 of the Housing and Community Develop-
11 ment Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.)
12 related to disaster relief, long-term recov-
13 ery, restoration of infrastructure and hous-
14 ing, and economic revitalization in the
15 most impacted and distressed areas result-
16 ing from a major disaster declared pursu-
17 ant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Re-
18 lief and Emergency Assistance Act (42
19 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.); and

20 (ii) flood insurance coverage provided
21 under the National Flood Insurance Pro-
22 gram pursuant to the National Flood In-
23 surance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4001 et
24 seq.); and

1 (C) any assistance provided under the Rob-
2 ert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency
3 Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.).

4 (3) ELIGIBLE RECIPIENT.—The term “eligible
5 recipient”—

6 (A) means any entity that receives disaster
7 assistance directly from the Federal Govern-
8 ment (including disaster assistance received
9 through grant, loan, or contract) other than an
10 individual; and

11 (B) includes a State that receives disaster
12 assistance.

13 (4) SPECIFIED NATURAL DISASTER.—The term
14 “specified natural disaster” means—

15 (A) a fire on public or private forest land
16 or grassland described in section 420 of the
17 Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emer-
18 gency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5187);

19 (B) a major disaster declared by the Presi-
20 dent under section 401 of such Act (42 U.S.C.
21 5170);

22 (C) an emergency declared by the Presi-
23 dent under section 501 of such Act (42 U.S.C.
24 5191); and

