

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 9541

To amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to authorize Federal agencies to provide certain essential assistance for hazard mitigation for electric utilities, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 11, 2024

Ms. HOYLE of Oregon (for herself and Mr. EZELL) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to authorize Federal agencies to provide certain essential assistance for hazard mitigation for electric utilities, 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 “Promoting Opportuni-
5 ties to Widen Electrical Resilience Act of 2024” or the
6 “POWER Act of 2024”.

1 **SEC. 2. ESSENTIAL ASSISTANCE.**

2 (a) Section 403 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster
3 Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170b)
4 is amended by adding at the end the following:

5 “(e) **ELECTRIC UTILITIES.**—

6 “(1) **HAZARD MITIGATION ACTIVITIES.**—An
7 electric utility may carry out cost-effective hazard
8 mitigation activities jointly or otherwise in combina-
9 tion with activities for the restoration of power car-
10 ried out with assistance provided under this section.

11 “(2) **ELIGIBILITY FOR ADDITIONAL ASSIST-**
12 **ANCE.**— In any case in which an electric utility fa-
13 cility receives assistance under this section for the
14 emergency restoration of power, the receipt of such
15 assistance shall not render such facility ineligible for
16 any hazard mitigation assistance under section 406
17 for which such facility is otherwise eligible.”.

18 (b) **APPLICABILITY.**—The amendment made by sub-
19 section (a) shall only apply to amounts appropriated on
20 or after the date of enactment of this Act.

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