S. 1274

To extend assistance to certain private nonprofit facilities following a disaster, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 10, 2013

Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself and Mr. BLUNT) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

A BILL

To extend assistance to certain private nonprofit facilities following a disaster, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. PRIVATE NONPROFIT FACILITIES.

(a) Definition of Private Nonprofit Facility.—Section 102(11)(B) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5122(11)(B)) is amended to read as follows:

“(B) ADDITIONAL FACILITIES.—In addition to the facilities described in subparagraph (A), the term ‘private nonprofit facility’ in-
cludes any private nonprofit facility that pro-
vides essential services to the general public (in-
cluding museums, zoos, performing arts facili-
ties, community arts centers, community cen-
ters, houses of worship, libraries, homeless shel-
ters, senior citizen centers, rehabilitation facili-
ties, shelter workshops, and facilities that pro-
vide health and safety services of a govern-
mental nature), as defined by the President.”.

(b) Repair, Restoration, and Replacement of
Damaged Facilities.—Section 406(a)(3) of the Robert
T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act
(42 U.S.C. 5172(a)(3)) is amended by adding at the end
the following:

“(C) Treatment of Houses of Worship.—

“(i) In General.—A church, syna-
gogue, mosque, temple, or other house of
worship, and an otherwise eligible private
nonprofit facility operated by a religious
organization, shall be eligible for contribu-
tions under paragraph (1)(B), without re-
gard to the religious character of the facil-
ity or the primary religious use of the facil-
ity.
“(ii) LIMITATIONS.—Notwithstanding clause (i), in spaces used primarily for religious worship services, contributions under paragraph (1)(B) shall only be used to cover costs of purchasing or replacing, without limitation, the building structure, building enclosure components, building envelope, vertical and horizontal circulation, physical plant support spaces, electrical, plumbing, and mechanical systems (including heating, ventilation, air-conditioning, and fire and life safety systems), and related site improvements.”.

(e) APPLICABILITY.—This section and the amendments made by this section shall apply to the provision of assistance in response to a major disaster or emergency declared on or after October 28, 2012.