

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6048

To require a study and report on matters concerning best practices in mortality counts as a result of a major disaster.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 7, 2018

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To require a study and report on matters concerning best practices in mortality counts as a result of a major disaster.

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 “Counting Our Unex-
5 pected Natural Tragedies’ Victims Act of 2018” or the
6 “COUNT Victims Act”.

7 **SEC. 2. STUDY AND REPORT.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than September 30,
9 2018, the Administrator of Federal Emergency Manage-
10 ment Agency shall enter into a contract with the National

1 Academy of Medicine to conduct a study and prepare a
2 report as described in subsection (b).

3 (b) STUDY AND REPORT.—

4 (1) STUDY.—

5 (A) IN GENERAL.—The study described in
6 this subsection shall be a study of matters con-
7 cerning best practices in mortality counts as a
8 result of a major disaster (as defined in section
9 102 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief
10 and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C.
11 5122)).

12 (B) CONTENTS.—The study described in
13 this subsection shall address approaches to
14 quantifying mortality and significant morbidity
15 among populations affected by major disasters,
16 to include best practices and policy recommen-
17 dations for—

18 (i) equitable and timely attribution, in
19 order to, among other things, facilitate ac-
20 cess to available benefits;

21 (ii) timely prospective tracking of pop-
22 ulation levels of mortality and significant
23 morbidity, and their causes, in order to
24 continuously inform response efforts; and

1 (iii) retrospective study of disaster-re-
2 lated mortality and significant morbidity to
3 inform after-action analysis and improve
4 subsequent preparedness efforts.

5 (2) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the
6 date on which the contract described in subsection
7 (a) is entered into, the National Academy of Medi-
8 cine shall complete and transmit to the Adminis-
9 trator of Federal Emergency Management Agency a
10 report on the study described in paragraph (1).

11 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
12 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
13 \$2,000,000 for fiscal years 2018 through 2020.

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