

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2216

To waive and repay certain debts relating to assistance provided to individuals and households.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 11, 2017

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. CASSIDY, and Mrs. GILLIBRAND) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

A BILL

To waive and repay certain debts relating to assistance provided to individuals and households.

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 “Disaster Assistance
5 Recoupment Fairness Act of 2017”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEBTS ARISING SINCE 2012.**

7 (a) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “covered
8 assistance” means assistance provided—

1 (1) under section 408 of the Robert T. Stafford
2 Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42
3 U.S.C. 5174); and

4 (2) in relation to a major disaster declared by
5 the President under section 401 of the Robert T.
6 Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance
7 Act (42 U.S.C. 5170) during the period beginning
8 on January 1, 2012, and ending on the date of en-
9 actment of this Act.

10 (b) WAIVER AUTHORITY.—The Administrator of the
11 Federal Emergency Management Agency shall waive a
12 debt owed to the United States related to covered assist-
13 ance provided to an individual or household, unless the
14 debt involves fraud, the intentional presentation of a false
15 claim, or intentional misrepresentation by the debtor or
16 any party having an interest in the claim.

17 (c) REPAYMENT AUTHORITY.—The Administrator of
18 the Federal Emergency Management Agency shall reim-
19 burse a debtor for any payments made by the debtor on
20 a debt owed to the United States related to covered assist-
21 ance, if the Administrator would have otherwise been re-
22 quired to waive the debt under subsection (b).

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