

116TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 3806

To waive cost share requirements for certain Federal assistance provided under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 21, 2020

Mrs. HYDE-SMITH (for herself, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. CASSIDY, and Mr. PETERS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

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## A BILL

To waive cost share requirements for certain Federal assistance provided under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act.

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 “Local Community  
5 Emergency Relief Act of 2020”.

6 **SEC. 2. WAIVER FOR CERTAIN COST SHARE REQUIRE-**  
7 **MENTS.**

8 (a) COVERED DECLARATION DEFINED.—In this sec-  
9 tion, the term “covered declaration” means—

1           (1) a major disaster declared by the President  
2           under section 401 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster  
3           Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C.  
4           5170) during calendar year 2020; and

5           (2) an emergency declared by the President  
6           under section 501(b) of the Robert T. Stafford Dis-  
7           aster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42  
8           U.S.C. 5191(b)), or any subsequent major disaster  
9           declaration under section 401 of such Act (42  
10          U.S.C. 5170) that supersedes the emergency dec-  
11          laration, during calendar year 2020.

12          (b) WAIVER OF COST SHARE REQUIREMENTS.—Not-  
13          withstanding any other provision of law, including any  
14          agreement, the Federal share of any assistance awarded  
15          under a covered declaration shall be not less than 100 per-  
16          cent of the eligible costs, and, for purposes of subsection  
17          (a)(2), shall include assistance provided for the following:

18               (1) Miscellaneous costs, such as the costs of  
19               cleaning and sanitizing public areas and buildings  
20               where individuals who have contracted COVID–19  
21               have been present to prevent the spread of the virus.

22               (2) Other needs assistance for uninsured, dis-  
23               aster-related necessary expenses and serious needs,  
24               including—

1 (A) child care assistance for families,  
2 healthcare workers, first responders, and others  
3 whose children cannot attend school due to  
4 mandatory school closures and daycare center  
5 closures;

6 (B) funeral and burial assistance for fatali-  
7 ties resulting from the COVID–19 disease;

8 (C) increased operating costs for essential  
9 government services due to such emergency, in-  
10 cluding costs for implementing continuity plans,  
11 and sheltering or housing for first responders,  
12 emergency managers, health providers and  
13 other essential employees; and

14 (D) public health costs including, medical  
15 services, testing (including serological testing),  
16 preventative care, transportation, medical waste  
17 disposal, and prescriptions for individuals who  
18 have contracted COVID–19.

19 (3) Mental health services.

20 (4) Critical needs assistance for households  
21 with immediate or critical needs for vital resources  
22 due to the disruption of community services and  
23 higher demand and limited availability of commod-  
24 ities.

1           (5) Medical equipment, regardless of whether  
2 such equipment is used for emergency or inpatient  
3 care, including all Federal agency assets, temporary  
4 and permanent, and the non-Federal purchase of  
5 such equipment.

6           (6) The purchase and distribution of food,  
7 water, ice, medicine, and other consumable supplies,  
8 including personal protective equipment and inclu-  
9 sive of impacts to food stocks at private, non-profit  
10 food banks and the costs of delivery.

11           (7) Personal protective equipment decontamina-  
12 tion costs.

13           (8) Hospital and morgue capacity expansion  
14 projects to meet actual or projected COVID-19  
15 surge demands.

16           (9) The total costs of maintaining hospital ca-  
17 pacity expansion projects as “warm sites” during  
18 COVID-19 non-peak periods.

19           (10) Public health communications campaigns  
20 related to providing emergency COVID-19 informa-  
21 tion, increasing public awareness of the threats, and  
22 to mitigate against future spread of the virus.

23           (11) Technical assistance to eligible entities.

24           (12) Security and law enforcement costs, in-  
25 cluding overtime, directly related to COVID-19.

1           (c) APPLICABILITY.—The Federal share described in  
2 subsection (b) shall apply to assistance provided before,  
3 on, or after the date of enactment of this Act.

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