

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3252

To amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to provide for an alternative block grant program for funding temporary housing in response to a major disaster, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 7, 2025

Mr. MOSKOWITZ (for himself and Mr. BURCHETT) 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 provide for an alternative block grant program for funding temporary housing in response to a major disaster, 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 “Disaster Housing
5 Flexibility Act of 2025”.

1 **SEC. 2. ALTERNATIVE BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM.**

2 Title IV of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and
3 Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170 et seq.) is
4 amended by adding at the end the following:

5 **“SEC. 431. ALTERNATIVE BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM FOR**
6 **TEMPORARY HOUSING ASSISTANCE.**

7 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The President, acting
8 through the Administrator of the Federal Emergency
9 Management Agency, shall establish an alternative block
10 grant program for providing funds for temporary housing
11 assistance for individuals and households in the event of
12 a major disaster declared by the President under this title.

13 “(b) ASSESSMENT OF COST OF TEMPORARY HOUS-
14 ING ASSISTANCE.—

15 “(1) ASSESSMENT REQUIRED.—In the event of
16 a major disaster described in subsection (a), the Ad-
17 ministrator shall assess the cost of providing tem-
18 porary housing assistance in each impacted State in
19 which individuals and households would otherwise el-
20 igible for temporary housing assistance, including
21 reasonable administrative expenses incurred by the
22 State necessary to manage and distribute a block
23 grant under this section.

24 “(2) CONSULTATION.—In making an assess-
25 ment under paragraph (1), the Administrator shall
26 consult with each applicable State to ensure that the

1 amount of the assessment reflects a reasonable esti-
2 mate of the amount necessary to provide for tem-
3 porary housing assistance in an amount that would
4 otherwise be provided under—

5 “(A) section 408(c); or

6 “(B) other housing assistance programs
7 identified as needed by the State.

8 “(c) PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.—In carrying out the
9 program under this section, the President shall—

10 “(1) establish a process for a State to elect to
11 apply for a block under this section grant in lieu of
12 the eligibility of individuals and households to apply
13 for assistance under section 408(c); and

14 “(2) ensure that a State may request a single
15 adjustment to the amount provided in such block
16 grant if the initial amount is insufficient to provide
17 individuals and households assistance equivalent to
18 the assistance otherwise provided under such section.

19 “(d) APPLICATION.—To be eligible for a block grant
20 under this section, a State shall submit to the President
21 an application in such manner and containing such infor-
22 mation as the President may require.

23 “(e) APPLICABILITY.—In any case in which a State
24 receives a block grant under this section, an individual or
25 household located in the area covered by a disaster dec-

1 lation made by the President under section 401 and cov-
 2 ered by such grant shall not be eligible for temporary
 3 housing assistance under section 408(c).

4 “(f) REMAINING FUNDS.—Any funds provided under
 5 this section that remain after the completion of recovery
 6 activities for which such funds are provided may be used
 7 for preparedness or mitigation activities in the State that
 8 are eligible for assistance under this Act.

9 “(g) REPORTS.—

10 “(1) STATE REPORTS.—A State that receives a
 11 block grant under this section shall submit to the
 12 Administrator—

13 “(A) not later than 120 days after the date
 14 on which such grant was received, an initial dis-
 15bursement plan outlining anticipated uses of
 16 funds;

17 “(B) not later than 1 year after the sub-
 18 mission of the report under subparagraph (A),
 19 and annually thereafter until all funds provided
 20 under the grant are expended, a report con-
 21 taining—

22 “(i) a description of each individual or
 23 household for which funds were spent;

24 “(ii) in any case in which the State
 25 has remaining funds described under sub-

1 section (f), the proposed use of such funds;
2 and

3 “(iii) an assessment of the impact and
4 effectiveness of any expenditures of such
5 funds; and

6 “(C) not later than 180 days after all
7 funds provided under the grant have been ex-
8 pended, a final report containing—

9 “(i) a description of all assistance pro-
10 vided with such funds; and

11 “(ii) an analysis of the overall effec-
12 tiveness of the assistance provided under
13 such grant.

14 “(2) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than
15 12 months after the date of enactment of this sec-
16 tion, and annually thereafter, the Administrator
17 shall submit to Congress a report on the implemen-
18 tation of the program established under this section
19 that includes—

20 “(A) a list of States that have elected to
21 participate in such program;

22 “(B) a description of how the Adminis-
23 trator has implemented the program, including
24 administrative procedures and timelines;

1 “(C) an assessment of any challenges and
2 barriers to State participation and program im-
3 plementation;

4 “(D) an evaluation of the accuracy and
5 timeliness of cost estimates used to determine
6 grant amounts;

7 “(E) the average length of time required to
8 make cost estimates and disburse grant funds
9 following a declaration of a major disaster;

10 “(F) a review of the administrative impact
11 on the Administration and participating States,
12 including staffing and oversight capacity; and

13 “(G) recommendations for statutory, regu-
14 latory, or administrative changes needed to—

15 “(i) improve delivery under such pro-
16 gram;

17 “(ii) support administration of the
18 program; or

19 “(iii) enhance effectiveness of the pro-
20 gram.

21 “(h) TEMPORARY HOUSING ASSISTANCE DE-
22 FINED.—The term ‘temporary housing assistance’ means
23 any assistance provided to individuals and households
24 under section 408(c).”.

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