

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5395

To amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to direct the expedient disbursement of funds, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 16, 2025

Mr. HERNÁNDEZ (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY of New York, and Mr. STANTON) 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 direct the expedient disbursement of funds, 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 Relief Dis-
5 bursement Accountability Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. EXPEDIENT DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS.**

7 Title VI of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and
8 Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5195 et seq.) is
9 amended by adding at the end the following:

1 **“SEC. 630. EXPEDIENT DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS.**

2 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall take
3 any actions that are necessary to ensure that funds are
4 disbursed to eligible entities as expeditiously as possible
5 after a project is approved under this Act, including the
6 hazard mitigation grant program under section 404 and
7 the public assistance program under sections 403, 406,
8 407, 428, and 502.

9 “(b) REPORT TO ADMINISTRATOR.—

10 “(1) RETROACTIVE REPORT.—For each major
11 disaster or emergency for which a declaration was
12 made under section 401 or 501 and for which assist-
13 ance is being disbursed as of the date of enactment
14 of this section, each recipient of assistance for such
15 major disaster or emergency under the hazard miti-
16 gation grant program under section 404 or the pub-
17 lic assistance program under sections 403, 406, 407,
18 428, or 502 shall, not later than 1 year after such
19 date of enactment, submit to the Administrator a re-
20 port that describes the average amount of time the
21 recipient takes to disburse such assistance to a sub-
22 recipient.

23 “(2) ANNUAL REPORT.—For each major dis-
24 aster or emergency for which a declaration is made
25 under section 401 or 501 after the date of enact-
26 ment of this section, each recipient of assistance for

1 such major disaster or emergency under the hazard
2 mitigation grant program under section 404 or the
3 public assistance program under sections 403, 406,
4 407, 428, or 502 shall submit to the Administrator,
5 on an annual basis, a report that describes the aver-
6 age amount of time the recipient takes to disburse
7 such assistance to a subrecipient.

8 “(c) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 3 years
9 after the date of enactment of this section, and annually
10 thereafter, the Administrator shall submit to the Commit-
11 tees on Homeland Security and Transportation and Infra-
12 structure of the House of Representatives and the Com-
13 mittee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
14 of the Senate a report containing a summary of the infor-
15 mation provided under subsection (b).”.

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