

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1708

To amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to ensure the continuity of medical care following a major disaster by making private for-profit medical facilities eligible for Federal disaster assistance.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 15, 2001

Mr. McCONNELL (for himself and Ms. LANDRIEU) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works

A BILL

To amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to ensure the continuity of medical care following a major disaster by making private for-profit medical facilities eligible for Federal disaster assistance.

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 “Parity in Emergency
5 Preparedness and Response Act of 2001”.

1 **SEC. 2. ELIGIBILITY OF PRIVATE FOR-PROFIT MEDICAL FA-**
 2 **CILITIES FOR FEDERAL DISASTER ASSIST-**
 3 **ANCE.**

4 (a) ELIGIBILITY OF PRIVATE FOR-PROFIT MEDICAL
 5 FACILITIES FOR ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE TO PRIVATE
 6 NONPROFIT FACILITIES.—Section 102(9) of the Robert
 7 T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act
 8 (42 U.S.C. 5122(9)) is amended—

9 (1) by striking “and facilities” and inserting
 10 “facilities”; and

11 (2) by inserting before the period at the end the
 12 following: “, and private for-profit medical facilities
 13 (including hospitals and long-term care facilities)”.

14 (b) CLARIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY OF MEDICAL FA-
 15 CILITIES FOR EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS ASSIST-
 16 ANCE.—

17 (1) DEFINITION OF EMERGENCY PREPARED-
 18 NESS.—Section 602(a)(3)(A) of the Robert T. Staf-
 19 ford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act
 20 (42 U.S.C. 5195a(a)(3)(A)) is amended by inserting
 21 “the preparation of private nonprofit and for-profit
 22 medical facilities (including hospitals and long-term
 23 care facilities) to withstand major disasters,” after
 24 “control centers,”.

25 (2) FUNCTIONS OF FEMA.—Section 611(j)(1) of
 26 the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emer-

1 gency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5196(j)(1)) is
 2 amended in the first sentence by inserting before the
 3 period at the end the following: “(including the prep-
 4 aration of private nonprofit and for-profit medical
 5 facilities (including hospitals and long-term care fa-
 6 cilities) to withstand major disasters)”.

7 (c) DEFINITION OF LONG-TERM CARE FACILITY.—
 8 Section 102 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and
 9 Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5122) is amended
 10 by adding at the end the following:

11 “(10) LONG-TERM CARE FACILITY.—‘Long-
 12 term care facility’ means—

13 “(A) any skilled nursing facility (as de-
 14 fined in section 1819(a) of the Social Security
 15 Act (42 U.S.C. 1395i–3(a));

16 “(B) any nursing facility (as defined in
 17 section 1919(a) of that Act (42 U.S.C.
 18 1396r(a)); and

19 “(C) any other long-term care facility,
 20 such as an intermediate care facility for the
 21 mentally retarded.”.

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