

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3955

To amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to authorize the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to release a local government from certain land restrictions imposed under the hazard mitigation program, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 5, 2015

Mr. BLUM 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 authorize the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to release a local government from certain land restrictions imposed under the hazard mitigation program, 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 “Small Municipality
5 Flood Relief Act of 2015”.

1 **SEC. 2. HAZARD MITIGATION PROGRAM.**

2 Section 404(b) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Re-
3 lief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170c(b))
4 is amended—

5 (1) by redesignating paragraph (3) as para-
6 graph (4); and

7 (2) by inserting after paragraph (2) the fol-
8 lowing:

9 “(3) **AUTHORITY TO REMOVE GRANT CONDI-**
10 **TIONS.**—A recipient of assistance for an acquisition
11 or relocation project shall be released from any re-
12 striction imposed with respect to a parcel of property
13 under an agreement entered into under paragraph
14 (2)(B) if—

15 “(A) the local government that has juris-
16 diction over the property submits to the State
17 a request for the release;

18 “(B) the request is made more than 5
19 years after the date of the closeout of the acqui-
20 sition or relocation project;

21 “(C) on the date of the request, the parcel
22 is not in an area designated by the Adminis-
23 trator, for purposes of the National Flood In-
24 surance Program, as an area having special
25 flood hazards;

1 “(D) the local government certifies that no
2 coercion took place against the original property
3 owner in acquiring the parcel;

4 “(E) the State in which the parcel is lo-
5 cated approves the request and submits to the
6 Administrator, not later than 60 days after the
7 date of receipt of the request, a recommenda-
8 tion for approval of the request;

9 “(F) the local government—

10 “(i) repays to the Administrator the
11 amount of hazard mitigation assistance re-
12 ceived from the Federal Government under
13 paragraph (1) for the acquisition or reloca-
14 tion project; or

15 “(ii) substitutes for the property a dif-
16 ferent parcel of property that—

17 “(I) has at least 2 times the
18 acreage of the original property;

19 “(II) is subject to the same re-
20 strictions imposed under paragraph
21 (2)(B);

22 “(III) will not be subject to the
23 authority to remove the grant condi-
24 tions provided under paragraph (3);
25 and

1 “(IV) is determined to be as cost-
2 effective; and
3 “(G) the Administrator gives final approval
4 to the request.”.

○