

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7385

To direct the President to establish pilot programs to provide long-term rental housing assistance and case management services after certain major disasters, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 20, 2018

Ms. TITUS (for herself and Ms. PLASKETT) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To direct the President to establish pilot programs to provide long-term rental housing assistance and case management services after certain major disasters, 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 As-
5 sistance Program Accountability Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION OF DISASTER HOUSING ASSIST-**
2 **ANCE PILOT PROGRAMS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Pursuant to the authority under,
4 and meeting the requirements of, sections 408 and 426
5 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency
6 Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5174, 5189d), the President,
7 acting through the Administrator, shall establish at least
8 3 pilot programs, to be administered by an appropriate
9 Federal agency, to provide for long-term rental housing
10 assistance and case management services to eligible fami-
11 lies affected by a covered disaster in a State.

12 (b) CONSULTATION.—In establishing a pilot program
13 under this section, the Administrator shall consult with
14 the Governor of the State in which the disaster occurred.

15 (c) LIMITATION.—In establishing a pilot program
16 under this section, the Administrator shall ensure that
17 multiple pilot programs are not established in any 1 State.

18 (d) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The Administrator shall—

19 (1) ensure that each pilot program established
20 under subsection (a) assists eligible families with
21 transitioning toward self-sufficiency through case
22 management services provided in a cost-effective
23 manner; and

24 (2) determine whether the cost of each pilot
25 program and the services provided under any such

1 pilot program are competitive with other housing op-
2 tions provided by the Administrator.

3 (e) EXTENT OF SERVICES.—The Administrator, in
4 consultation with other Federal agencies with appropriate
5 expertise, shall determine the extent of case management
6 services required for an eligible family to obtain self-suffi-
7 ciency.

8 (f) TERMINATION.—The Administrator may termi-
9 nate each pilot program established under subsection (a)
10 at any time the Administrator considers appropriate.

11 (g) INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT.—To carry out each
12 pilot program, the Administrator and a relevant Federal
13 agency shall enter into an interagency agreement that, at
14 a minimum—

15 (1) includes policies, procedures, and framework
16 for—

17 (A) program management;

18 (B) financial management; and

19 (C) oversight;

20 (2) establishes requirements for cost and pro-
21 gram effectiveness data to be maintained and re-
22 ported to the Administrator on a regular basis; and

23 (3) identifies the type and amount of adminis-
24 trative fees that will be charged under each pilot
25 program.

1 (h) COST-EFFECTIVENESS OF PROGRAM.—

2 (1) PROGRAM COMPARISON DATA.—The Fed-
3 eral agency implementing the pilot program estab-
4 lished in subsection (a) shall provide the Adminis-
5 trator with such data as may be necessary for the
6 Administrator to conduct a comparison between each
7 pilot program established under subsection (a) and
8 other temporary housing options provided by the Ad-
9 ministrator under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster
10 Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C.
11 5121 et seq.).

12 (2) CASE MANAGEMENT DATA.—The Federal
13 agency implementing the pilot program established
14 in subsection (a) shall provide the Administrator
15 with such data as may be necessary to determine the
16 extent of case management services required and
17 provided under each program and the effectiveness
18 of such services in transitioning eligible families to-
19 ward self-sufficiency.

20 (3) FEES.—The Administrator shall ensure
21 that—

22 (A) the administrative fees of each pilot
23 program are reasonable compared to the cost of
24 temporary housing assistance provided to eligi-
25 ble families;

1 (B) case management services fees are rea-
2 sonable compared to the cost of the case man-
3 agement services provided to eligible families;
4 and

5 (C) administrative fees and case manage-
6 ment services fees do not exceed the amounts
7 provided under the Interagency Agreement exe-
8 cuted on March 25, 2013, to implement Dis-
9 aster Housing Assistance Program—Sandy.

10 (i) ANALYSIS AND REPORT.—

11 (1) ANALYSIS.—After termination of a pilot
12 program, the Administrator shall conduct an anal-
13 ysis comparing the costs, benefits, and effectiveness
14 of each pilot program, including any case manage-
15 ment services provided, with other temporary hous-
16 ing options provided by the Administrator under the
17 Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency
18 Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.).

19 (2) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after
20 the Administrator terminates a pilot program, the
21 Administrator shall submit to the Committee on
22 Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of
23 Representatives and the Committee on Homeland
24 Security and Government Affairs of the Senate a re-

1 port that contains the analysis required under para-
2 graph (1).

3 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

4 In this Act:

5 (1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Adminis-
6 trator” means the Administrator of the Federal
7 Emergency Management Agency.

8 (2) COVERED DISASTER.—The term “covered
9 disaster” means a major disaster declared by the
10 President under section 401 of the Robert T. Staf-
11 ford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act
12 (42 U.S.C. 5170)—

13 (A) during 2017 in the territories of the
14 United States; or

15 (B) during 2018 in a State.

16 (3) ELIGIBLE FAMILIES.—The term “eligible
17 families” means families that the Administrator de-
18 termines are eligible for housing assistance under
19 section 408 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief
20 and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5174)
21 and case management services under section 426 of
22 such Act.

23 (4) FAMILIES.—The term “families” has the
24 meaning given such term in section 3(b)(3)(B) of

1 the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C.
2 1437a).

3 (5) GOVERNOR; STATE.—The terms “Governor”
4 and “State” have the meanings given such terms in
5 section 102 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief
6 and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5122).

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