

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1659

To amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award grants to nursing homes, assisted living facilities, and other long-term care facilities to improve their preparedness for power outages.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 8, 2019

Ms. WILSON of Florida introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award grants to nursing homes, assisted living facilities, and other long-term care facilities to improve their preparedness for power outages.

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 Preparedness
5 for Power Outages Act of 2019”.

1 **SEC. 2. IMPROVING THE PREPAREDNESS OF NURSING**
2 **HOMES, ASSISTED LIVING FACILITIES, AND**
3 **OTHER LONG-TERM CARE FACILITIES FOR**
4 **POWER OUTAGES.**

5 The Public Health Service Act is amended by insert-
6 ing after section 319C–2 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 247d–
7 3b) the following new section:

8 **“SEC. 319C–3. IMPROVING THE PREPAREDNESS OF NURS-**
9 **ING HOMES, ASSISTED LIVING FACILITIES,**
10 **AND OTHER LONG-TERM CARE FACILITIES**
11 **FOR POWER OUTAGES.**

12 “(a) GRANTS.—The Secretary may award grants to
13 nursing homes, assisted living facilities, and other long-
14 term care facilities to improve their preparedness for
15 power outages, including during and after a natural dis-
16 aster.

17 “(b) USE OF FUNDS.—The preparedness activities
18 funded through a grant under this section may include—

19 “(1) the purchase of a backup power source,
20 such as a generator, and any related equipment; and
21 “(2) the creation of a regional resource direc-
22 tory on disaster and post-disaster preparedness for
23 power outages.

24 “(c) PREFERENCE.—In awarding grants under this
25 section, the Secretary shall give preference to nursing

1 homes, assisted living facilities, and other long-term care

2 facilities that—

3 “(1) are located in areas that—

4 “(A) have a high proportion of—

5 “(i) elderly residents; or

6 “(ii) individuals who are enrolled in a

7 State plan under title XIX of the Social

8 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396 et seq.) (or

9 under a waiver of such plan); and

10 “(B) have a high risk of hurricanes or

11 other natural disasters; and

12 “(2) have not been cited for a substantive Fed-

13 eral, State, or local violation.

14 “(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To

15 carry out this section, there are authorized to be appro-

16 priated such sums as may be necessary.”.

