

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.

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## 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

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## 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.”.

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