

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2548

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 18, 2019

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and
Governmental Affairs

AN ACT

To modify eligibility requirements for certain hazard
mitigation assistance programs, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Hazard Eligibility and
3 Local Projects Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. AUTHORITY TO BEGIN IMPLEMENTATION OF AC-**
5 **QUISITION OR RELOCATION PROJECTS.**

6 (a) **ELIGIBILITY FOR ASSISTANCE FOR INITIATED**
7 **PROJECTS.—**

8 (1) **IN GENERAL.**—Notwithstanding any other
9 provision of law, an entity seeking assistance under
10 a hazard mitigation assistance program shall be eli-
11 gible to receive such assistance for a covered project
12 if the entity—

13 (A) complies with all other eligibility re-
14 quirements of the hazard mitigation assistance
15 program for acquisition or relocation projects,
16 including extinguishing all incompatible encum-
17 brances; and

18 (B) complies with all Federal requirements
19 for the project.

20 (2) **COSTS INCURRED.**—An entity seeking as-
21 sistance under a hazard mitigation assistance pro-
22 gram shall be responsible for any project costs in-
23 curred by the entity for a covered project if the cov-
24 ered project is not awarded, or is determined to be
25 ineligible for, assistance.

1 (b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the following defi-
2 nitions apply:

3 (1) COVERED PROJECT.—The term “covered
4 project” means—

5 (A) an acquisition or relocation project for
6 which an entity began implementation prior to
7 grant award under a hazard mitigation assist-
8 ance program; and

9 (B) a project for which an entity initiated
10 planning or construction before or after re-
11 questing assistance for the project under a haz-
12 ard mitigation assistance program qualifying
13 for a categorical exemption under the National
14 Environmental Policy Act.

15 (2) HAZARD MITIGATION ASSISTANCE PRO-
16 GRAM.—The term “hazard mitigation assistance
17 program” means—

18 (A) the predisaster hazard mitigation
19 grant program authorized under section 203 of
20 the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and
21 Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5133);

22 (B) the hazard mitigation grant program
23 authorized under section 404 of the Robert T.
24 Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assist-
25 ance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170c); and

(C) the flood mitigation assistance program authorized under section 1366 of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4104c).

(c) APPLICABILITY.—This section shall apply to funds appropriated on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

Passed the House of Representatives December 17,
2019.

Attest: **CHERYL L. JOHNSON,**
Clerk.