

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 5300

OFFERED BY MR. OLSZEWSKI OF MARYLAND

Section 604 is amended by –

1. Page 198, line 1, striking "Professionals".

2. Before (a), inserting the following:

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The head of the relevant foreign assistance agency shall maintain a Disaster Assistance Response Team ("DART") response capability as a method of providing rapid response assistance to international disasters. The decision to deploy a DART shall be made in response to humanitarian need without respect to the country's status as an ally or partner of the United States.

(b) **RESPONSIBILITIES.**—The responsibilities of DART may include the following:

(1) Developing response plans and strategies.

(2) Assessing and reporting on disasters and making recommendations for response efforts;

(3) Providing technical assistance in response to a disaster.

(4) Assisting in the coordination of U.S. government response efforts.

(5) Coordinating the movement and consignment of relief commodities.

3. Redesignating (a) as (c) and amending it to: **SPECIALIZED DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROFESSIONALS.**—The head of the relevant foreign assistance agency shall establish and maintain a program for the recruitment, training, and retention of specialized disaster assistance professionals within the Department.

4. Redesignating (b) as (d) and amending it to: **PURPOSE.**—This program shall ensure that the relevant foreign assistance agency has a sufficient number of personnel with the skills and expertise necessary to plan, implement, and manage complex international disaster assistance operations. Such expertise shall include procurement, logistics, public health, nutrition, protection, engineering, and finance.

5. Redesignating (c) as (e) and amending it to: **TRAINING.**—The head of the relevant foreign assistance agency shall ensure that these professionals receive regular and relevant training to maintain and enhance their skills.