

Union Calendar No.

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 6249

[Report No. 118-]

To provide for a review and report on the assistance and resources that the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency provides to individuals with disabilities and the families of such individuals that are impacted by major disasters, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 6, 2023

Mr. MOLINARO (for himself, Ms. TITUS, Mr. CARBAJAL, and Ms. NORTON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

NOVEMBER --, 2023

Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union,
and ordered to be printed

A BILL

To provide for a review and report on the assistance and resources that the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency provides to individuals with disabilities and the families of such individuals that are impacted by 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 “Think Differently
5 About Emergencies Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. REPORT TO CONGRESS.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after the
8 date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the
9 Federal Emergency Management Agency shall submit to
10 the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of
11 the House of Representatives and the Committee on
12 Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Sen-
13 ate a report describing the assistance and resources that
14 the Administrator provides for individuals with intellectual
15 and developmental disabilities and the families of such in-
16 dividuals who are impacted by major disasters declared
17 under section 401 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Re-
18 lief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170) to
19 the following:

- 20 (1) States.
21 (2) Localities.
22 (3) Nonprofit organizations.
23 (4) Directly to such individuals.

24 (b) CONTENTS.—The report under subsection (a)
25 shall contain—

1 (1) a description of the resources and best prac-
2 tices that the Administrator makes available to the
3 entities listed in paragraphs (1) through (4) of sub-
4 section (a) that are impacted by major disasters de-
5 clared under section 401 of the Robert T. Stafford
6 Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42
7 U.S.C. 5170);

8 (2) detail the process the Administrator under-
9 takes to train personnel and deploy such personnel
10 into areas to coordinate with States, localities, and
11 nonprofit organizations to provide assistance and en-
12 sure that the needs of individuals with intellectual
13 and developmental disabilities and the families of
14 such individuals are met following such a disaster;

15 (3) list the number of programs the Adminis-
16 trator administers which support individuals with in-
17 tellectual and developmental disabilities to prepare
18 for and recover from such disasters, including by
19 provide accommodation to such individuals and the
20 families of such individuals;

21 (4) description of outreach activities of the Ad-
22 ministration to State, local, and nonprofit experts on
23 addressing the needs of individuals with intellectual
24 and developmental disabilities and the families of
25 such individuals impacted by such disasters; and

1 (5) report that identifies, with respect to indi-
2 viduals with intellectual and developmental disabil-
3 ities and the families of such individuals, areas for
4 improvement in supporting such individuals and
5 families to prepare for and recover from such disas-
6 ters.

7 **SEC. 3. REVIEW OF ASSISTANCE AND RESOURCES.**

8 Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment
9 of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States
10 and the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Manage-
11 ment Agency shall each—

12 (1) conduct a review of assistance and resources
13 the Administrator provides to States, localities, non-
14 profit organizations, and individuals to assist—

15 (A) individuals with intellectual and devel-
16 opmental disabilities;

17 (B) individuals with physical disabilities;
18 and

19 (C) the families of the individuals de-
20 scribed in subparagraphs (A) and (B);

21 (2) identify potential legal impediments to pro-
22 viding such assistance and resources;

23 (3) provide to Congress recommendations on
24 how the Administration can—

25 (A) improve such assistance and resources;

1 (B) enhance coordination with States, lo-
2 calities, nonprofit organizations in carrying out
3 such assistance and providing such resources;
4 and

5 (C) streamline the application process and
6 delivery of assistance and resources to individ-
7 uals described in subparagraphs (A) through
8 (C) of paragraph (1); and

9 (4) provide to Congress recommendations on
10 any legislative reform necessary to improve such as-
11 sistance and resources.