

## Union Calendar No.

118<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 7671

[Report No. 118-]

To amend section 324 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to incentivize States, Indian Tribes, and Territories to close disaster recovery projects by authorizing the use of excess funds for management costs for other disaster recovery projects.

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### IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 13, 2024

Mr. NEGUSE (for himself, Mr. D'ESPOSITO, Ms. TITUS, Mr. EZELL, and Mr. STANTON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

SEPTEMBER --, 2024

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

# **A BILL**

To amend section 324 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to incentivize States, Indian Tribes, and Territories to close disaster recovery projects by authorizing the use of excess funds for management costs for other disaster recovery projects.

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 Management  
5 Costs Modernization Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. USE OF EXCESS FUNDS FOR MANAGEMENT COSTS.**

7        (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 324 of the Robert T.  
8 Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act  
9 (42 U.S.C. 5165b) is amended—

10            (1) in subsection (b)(2)—

11                    (A) by redesignating subparagraphs (A)  
12                    and (B) as clauses (i) and (ii), respectively, and  
13                    adjusting the margins accordingly; and

14                    (B) in the matter preceding clause (i), as  
15                    so redesignated, by striking “provide the fol-  
16                    lowing percentage rates” and inserting “pro-  
17                    vide—

18                    “(A) excess funds for management costs as  
19                    described in subsection (c); and

20                    “(B) the following percentage rates”;

21            (2) by redesignating subsection (c) as sub-  
22            section (d); and

23            (3) by inserting after subsection (b) the fol-  
24            lowing:

1           “(c) USE OF EXCESS FUNDS FOR MANAGEMENT  
2 COSTS.—

3           “(1) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the term  
4 ‘excess funds for management costs’ means the dif-  
5 ference between—

6           “(A) the amount of the applicable specific  
7 management costs authorized under subsection  
8 (b)(1) and subsection (b)(2)(B); and

9           “(B) as of the date on which the grant  
10 award is closed, the amount of funding for  
11 management costs activities expended by the  
12 grantee or subgrantee receiving the financial as-  
13 sistance for costs described in subparagraph  
14 (A).

15           “(2) AVAILABILITY OF EXCESS FUNDS FOR  
16 MANAGEMENT COSTS.—The President may make  
17 available to a grantee or subgrantee receiving finan-  
18 cial assistance under section 403, 404, 406, 407, or  
19 502 any excess funds for management costs.

20           “(3) USE OF FUNDS.—Excess funds for man-  
21 agement costs made available to a grantee or sub-  
22 grantee under paragraph (2) may be used for—

23           “(A) activities associated with building ca-  
24 pacity to prepare for, recover from, or mitigate  
25 the impacts of a major disaster or emergency

1 declared under section 401 or 501, respectively;

2 and

3 “(B) management costs associated with

4 any—

5 “(i) major disaster;

6 “(ii) emergency;

7 “(iii) disaster preparedness measure;

8 or

9 “(iv) mitigation activity or measure

10 authorized under section 203, 204, 205, or

11 404.

12 “(4) AVAILABILITY.—Excess funds for manage-

13 ment costs made available to a grantee or sub-

14 grantee under paragraph (2) shall remain available

15 to the grantee or subgrantee until the date that is

16 5 years after the date on which the excess funds for

17 management costs are made available under para-

18 graph (2).”.

19 (b) APPLICABILITY.—The amendments made by sub-

20 section (a) shall apply with respect to any grant award

21 in relation to a major disaster or emergency declared

22 under section 401 or 501, respectively, of the Robert T.

23 Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act

24 (42 U.S.C. 5170, 5191)—

1           (1) the declaration of which is made on or after  
2           the date of enactment of this Act; and

3           (2) that is funded with amounts appropriated  
4           on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

5           (c) GAO STUDY.—Not later than 180 days after the  
6           date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General  
7           of the United States shall submit to the Committee on  
8           Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Sen-  
9           ate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastruc-  
10          ture of the House of Representatives a report—

11           (1) on the actual management costs described  
12          in section 324 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster  
13          Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C.  
14          5165b) during the period of a major disaster dec-  
15          laration under section 401 of such Act (42 U.S.C.  
16          5170) to determine whether the amount set aside for  
17          those management costs after the date of enactment  
18          of this Act is appropriate; and

19           (2) that includes the management costs de-  
20          scribed in section 324 of the Robert T. Stafford Dis-  
21          aster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42  
22          U.S.C. 5165b) for each disaster declared under dur-  
23          ing the period of a major disaster declaration under  
24          section 401 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 5170) during the  
25          5-year period preceding the date of the report, the

1 amount set aside for those management costs, the  
2 use of those management costs, the length of each  
3 disaster, and the reason for the length of each dis-  
4 aster.

5 (d) NO ADDITIONAL FUNDS.—No additional funds  
6 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out the amend-  
7 ments made by subsection (a).