

104TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 3348

To direct the President to establish standards and criteria for the provision of major disaster and emergency assistance in response to snow-related events.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 29, 1996

Mr. QUINN (for himself, Mr. SOLOMON, Mr. STUPAK, Mr. BOEHLERT, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. MASCARA, Mr. CLINGER, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. HOLDEN, Mr. TRAFICANT, Mrs. KELLY, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. TORKILDSEN, Mr. KING, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island, Mr. GOODLING, Mr. GILMAN, Mr. BLUTE, and Mr. PETRI) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To direct the President to establish standards and criteria for the provision of major disaster and emergency assistance in response to snow-related events.

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 “Snow Removal Policy
5 Act of 1996”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds that—

1 (1) winter snow storms in 1995 interrupted es-
2 sential public services and utilities, caused wide-
3 spread disruption of vital transportation networks,
4 stranded many motorists, and isolated many homes
5 and businesses;

6 (2) the impact of the winter snow storms was
7 of such severity and magnitude that effective re-
8 sponse was beyond the capability of State and local
9 governments;

10 (3) the policy of the Federal Emergency Man-
11 agement Agency for providing major disaster and
12 emergency assistance in response to snow-related
13 events is unclear;

14 (4) regulations of the Federal Emergency Man-
15 agement Agency for providing fire suppression as-
16 sistance, contained in subpart L of part 206 of title
17 44, Code of Federal Regulations, provide an example
18 of a clearly articulated emergency assistance policy;
19 and

20 (5) regulations should be promulgated for pro-
21 viding major disaster and emergency assistance in
22 response to snow-related events in order to ensure
23 the fair treatment of States and local governments
24 that have incurred costs associated with such a re-
25 sponse.

1 **SEC. 3. RULEMAKING TO ESTABLISH STANDARDS AND CRI-**
2 **TERIA FOR SNOW-RELATED EVENTS.**

3 (a) NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING.—The
4 President, acting through the Director of the Federal
5 Emergency Management Agency, shall issue a notice of
6 proposed rulemaking to promulgate—

7 (1) standards and criteria for declaring a major
8 disaster or emergency under the Robert T. Stafford
9 Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act in re-
10 sponse to a snow-related event; and

11 (2) standards and criteria for providing assist-
12 ance under such Act in the case of a snow-related
13 major disaster or emergency, including reimburse-
14 ment for snow removal and for debris removal and
15 emergency protective measures.

16 (b) REQUIREMENT.—Rules to be promulgated under
17 this section shall ensure that in determining the eligibility
18 of a State or local government for assistance in connection
19 with a snow-related event, the President will give consider-
20 ation to existing capabilities of the State or local govern-
21 ment.

22 (c) DEADLINES.—The President, acting through the
23 Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency,
24 shall issue—

1 (1) a proposed rule under this section not later
2 than 3 months after the date of the enactment of
3 this Act; and

4 (2) a final rule under this section not later than
5 6 months after such date of enactment.

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