

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

# H. R. 6249

---

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 12, 2024

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

---

## AN ACT

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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Think Differently  
3 About Emergencies Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. REPORT TO CONGRESS.**

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

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

22 (b) CONTENTS.—The report under subsection (a)  
23 shall contain—

- 24 (1) a description of the resources and best prac-  
25 tices that the Administrator makes available to the  
26 entities listed in paragraphs (1) through (4) of sub-

1 section (a) that are impacted by major disasters de-  
2 clared under section 401 of the Robert T. Stafford  
3 Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42  
4 U.S.C. 5170);

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

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

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

23 (5) report that identifies, with respect to indi-  
24 viduals with intellectual and developmental disabil-  
25 ities and the families of such individuals, areas for

1 improvement in supporting such individuals and  
2 families to prepare for and recover from such disas-  
3 ters.

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

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

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

12 (A) individuals with intellectual and devel-  
13 opmental disabilities;

14 (B) individuals with physical disabilities;  
15 and

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

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

20 (3) provide to Congress recommendations on  
21 how the Administration can—

22 (A) improve such assistance and resources;

23 (B) enhance coordination with States, lo-  
24 calities, nonprofit organizations in carrying out

1           such assistance and providing such resources;  
2           and  
3           (C) streamline the application process and  
4           delivery of assistance and resources to individ-  
5           uals described in subparagraphs (A) through  
6           (C) of paragraph (1); and  
7           (4) provide to Congress recommendations on  
8           any legislative reform necessary to improve such as-  
9           sistance and resources.

Passed the House of Representatives March 11,  
2024.

Attest:                           KEVIN F. MCCUMBER,  
*Clerk.*