

# Union Calendar No. 321

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

# H. R. 6249

[Report No. 118-392]

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.

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## 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

FEBRUARY 20, 2024

Additional sponsors: Mr. RYAN, Mr. PAPPAS, Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois, Mr. KEAN of New Jersey, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, and Mr. ALLRED

FEBRUARY 20, 2024

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 disabili-  
3           ties 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.



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