

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 9024

To direct the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to take certain actions relating to incident periods and extreme weather, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 11, 2024

Ms. TITUS (for herself and Mr. STANTON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To direct the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to take certain actions relating to incident periods and extreme weather, 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 “Extreme Weather and
5 Heat Response Modernization Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. INCIDENT PERIODS.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 6 months after the
8 date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the

1 Federal Emergency Management Agency shall convene an
2 advisory panel consisting of emergency management per-
3 sonnel to assist the Agency in reviewing the process and
4 procedures related to the determination of incident periods
5 for emergencies or major disasters declared under the
6 Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assist-
7 ance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.).

8 (b) MEMBERSHIP.—

9 (1) IN GENERAL.—This advisory panel con-
10 vened under subsection (a) shall consist of at least
11 2 representatives from national emergency manage-
12 ment organizations, at least 2 relevant county offi-
13 cials, at least 1 representative from the National
14 Weather Service, and at least 5 representatives from
15 each of the 10 regions of the Federal Emergency
16 Management Agency selected from emergency man-
17 agement personnel employed by State, local, terri-
18 torial, or Tribal authorities within each region.

19 (2) INCLUSION ON PANEL.—To the furthest ex-
20 tent practicable, representation on the advisory
21 panel shall include emergency management per-
22 sonnel from rural, urban, underrepresented, Tribal,
23 and insular jurisdictions.

24 (c) CONSIDERATIONS.—In reviewing the process and
25 procedures related to the determination of incident periods

1 under subsection (a), the advisory panel convened under
2 such subsection shall consider the effectiveness of incident
3 periods, including—

4 (1) incident periods for slow on-set disasters;

5 (2) incident periods for correlated non-contig-
6 uous disasters;

7 (3) incident periods for compound disasters;

8 and

9 (4) incident periods for cascading disasters.

10 (d) INTERIM REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after
11 the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall
12 submit to Congress, and make publicly available, a report
13 regarding the findings of the review under this section
14 that includes any recommendations of the advisory panel
15 convened under subsection (a), including additional legis-
16 lation that may be necessary to address such findings.

17 (e) RULEMAKING AND FINAL REPORT.—Not later
18 than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the
19 Administrator shall issue such regulations as are nec-
20 essary to implement the recommendations of the advisory
21 panel and submit to Congress a report discussing—

22 (1) a summary of the findings of the advisory
23 panel convened under subsection (a);

24 (2) the implementation of recommendations
25 from such advisory panel; and

1 (3) any additional legislative recommendations
2 necessary to improve the effectiveness of incident pe-
3 riods.

4 **SEC. 3. MITIGATION AND PREPAREDNESS.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the Federal
6 Emergency Management Agency may, under section 203
7 and 404 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and
8 Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5133 and 5170c)—

9 (1) consider innovative preparedness and miti-
10 gation projects eligible for the purposes of mitigating
11 or aiding individuals during an extreme heat event,
12 including stockpiling and installing equipment for
13 households, first responders, and public health and
14 health care systems and emergency voucher pro-
15 grams; and

16 (2) with respect to eligible uses of funds author-
17 ized, provide, and issue relevant guidance, for the es-
18 tablishment and function of—

19 (A) community cooling centers; and

20 (B) resilience centers.

21 (b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

22 (1) COMMUNITY COOLING CENTER.—The term
23 “community cooling center” means a public serving
24 facility that provides an environment for people to

1 maintain a healthy body temperature during an ex-
2 treme heat event.

3 (2) RESILIENCE CENTER.—The term “resil-
4 ience center” means a public serving facility that
5 provides information and services to build resilient
6 communities before, during, and after emergency
7 events.

8 **SEC. 4. GUIDANCE.**

9 Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment
10 of this Act, the Administrator of the Federal Emergency
11 Management Agency shall issue guidance related to—

12 (1) extreme temperature events, including heat
13 waves and freezes, and publish such guidance in the
14 Federal Emergency Management Agency Public As-
15 sistance Program and Policy Guide;

16 (2) hazard mitigation, including eligibility cri-
17 teria for projects that primarily mitigate the impacts
18 of extreme heat and projects specified in section
19 3(a)(2); and

20 (3) extreme heat for the purposes of hazard
21 mitigation planning under section 322 of the Robert
22 T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assist-
23 ance Act (42 U.S.C. 5165), the National Prepared-
24 ness Course Catalog, National Disaster Recovery
25 Framework, National Response Recovery Frame-

1 work, and Threat and Hazard Identification and
2 Risk Assessment.

3 **SEC. 5. STUDY ON EXTREME HEAT.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the
5 date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the
6 Federal Emergency Management Agency shall conduct a
7 study to measure the impact of extreme heat and rec-
8 ommend guidance on mitigating and responding to ex-
9 treme heat.

10 (b) CONSULTATION.—In conducting the study re-
11 quired under subsection (a), the Administrator shall con-
12 sult with relevant stakeholders and the heads of other
13 Federal agencies.

14 (c) CONTENT.—In conducting the study required
15 under subsection (a), the Administrator shall—

16 (1) examine and consider solutions to address
17 the impact of extreme heat on—

18 (A) disadvantaged communities;

19 (B) buildings, roads, utilities, power gen-
20 eration, air conditioning units, and other rel-
21 evant infrastructure;

22 (C) short- and long-term health outcomes;

23 (D) pets and livestock; and

24 (E) society and the economy;

1 (2) evaluate the geographical and regional dif-
2 ferences in the occurrence and impact of extreme
3 heat;

4 (3) evaluate the effectiveness of emergency
5 alerts and the language used in such alerts to im-
6 prove public safety during extreme heat events;

7 (4) examine metrics for defining and commu-
8 nicating the severity of an extreme heat event;

9 (5) examine the compounding effects and con-
10 sequential risk of extreme heat and wildfire smoke;

11 (6) recommend best practices for community
12 education and safety during extreme heat events;

13 (7) examine the impact extreme heat to the
14 health and safety of the Federal Emergency Man-
15 agement Agency workforce when responding to dis-
16 asters;

17 (8) develop guidance for first responder train-
18 ing protocol for extreme heat emergencies; and

19 (9) recommend guidance for incorporating ex-
20 treme heat into local and State government emer-
21 gency management preparedness plans.

22 (d) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not less than 1 year
23 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator
24 shall submit to the Committee on Transportation and In-
25 frastructure of the House of Representatives and the Com-

1 mittee on Homeland Security and Government Affairs of
2 the Senate a report containing—

3 (1) the results of study required under sub-
4 section (a); and

5 (2) any additional recommendations for devel-
6 oping a framework for mitigating and responding to
7 extreme heat emergencies.

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