

**AMENDMENT TO THE SENATE AMENDMENT TO
H.R. 5371
OFFERED BY MR. BELL OF MISSOURI**

At the end of division A (before the short title), add
the following new section:

1 SEC. 164. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision
2 of law, in the event of a lapse in appropriations, the Ad-
3 ministrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agen-
4 cy shall be authorized to—

5 (1) continue all disaster relief, recovery, and
6 mitigation operations funded through the Disaster
7 Relief Fund;

8 (2) obligate and disburse Disaster Relief Fund
9 balances for all existing and future disaster declara-
10 tions, including individual and public assistance
11 under sections 403, 406, 407, 408, and 502 of the
12 Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency
13 Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170b, 5172, 5173, 5174,
14 and 5192); and

15 (3) maintain personnel and contract support
16 necessary to ensure uninterrupted processing of
17 claims and payments.

1 (b) All unobligated balances in the Disaster Relief
2 Fund shall remain available to the Administrator for ex-
3 penditure during a lapse in appropriations.

4 (c) No funds from the Disaster Relief Fund may be
5 withheld, sequestered, or reprogrammed during a lapse in
6 appropriations, except as necessary to comply with section
7 1341 of title 31, United States Code (commonly referred
8 to as the 'Anti-Deficiency Act').

9 (d) For purposes of section 1341 of title 31, United
10 States Code (commonly referred to as the 'Anti-Deficiency
11 Act'), operations of the Federal Emergency Management
12 Agency authorized under this Act shall be considered es-
13 sential to protect human life and property, and therefore
14 exempt from shutdown restrictions.

