

**AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 117-**

**54**

**OFFERED BY MR. KATKO OF NEW YORK**

At the end of title LIII of division E of the bill, add the following:

1 **SEC. 5306. DESIGNATION OF SMALL STATE AND RURAL AD-**  
2 **VOCATE.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 326(e) of the Robert T.  
4 Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act  
5 (42 U.S.C. 5165d) is amended—

6 (1) by striking “and” at the end of paragraph  
7 (2);

8 (2) by redesignating paragraph (3) as para-  
9 graph (4); and

10 (3) by inserting after paragraph (2) the fol-  
11 lowing:

12 “(3) assist States in the collection and presen-  
13 tation of material in the disaster or emergency dec-  
14 laration request relevant to demonstrate severe local-  
15 ized impacts within the State for a specific incident,  
16 including—

1           “(A) the per capita personal income by  
2 local area, as calculated by the Bureau of Eco-  
3 nomic Analysis;

4           “(B) the disaster impacted population pro-  
5 file, as reported by the Bureau of the Census,  
6 including—

7           “(i) the percentage of the population  
8 for whom poverty status is determined;

9           “(ii) the percentage of the population  
10 already receiving Government assistance  
11 such as Supplemental Security Income and  
12 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Pro-  
13 gram benefits;

14           “(iii) the pre-disaster unemployment  
15 rate;

16           “(iv) the percentage of the population  
17 that is 65 years old and older;

18           “(v) the percentage of the population  
19 18 years old and younger;

20           “(vi) the percentage of the population  
21 with a disability;

22           “(vii) the percentage of the population  
23 who speak a language other than English  
24 and speak English less than ‘very well’;  
25 and

1 “(viii) any unique considerations re-  
2 garding American Indian and Alaskan Na-  
3 tive Tribal populations raised in the  
4 State’s request for a major disaster dec-  
5 laration that may not be reflected in the  
6 data points referenced in this subpara-  
7 graph;

8 “(C) the impact to community infrastruc-  
9 ture, including—

10 “(i) disruptions to community life-sav-  
11 ing and life-sustaining services;

12 “(ii) disruptions or increased demand  
13 for essential community services; and

14 “(iii) disruptions to transportation, in-  
15 frastructure, and utilities; and

16 “(D) any other information relevant to  
17 demonstrate severe local impacts.”.

18 (b) GAO REVIEW OF A FINAL RULE.—

19 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Comptroller General  
20 shall conduct a review of the Federal Emergency  
21 Management Agency’s implementation of its final  
22 rule, published on March 21, 2019, amending sec-  
23 tion 206.48(b) of title 44, Code of Federal Regula-  
24 tions (regarding factors considered when evaluating  
25 a Governor’s request for a major disaster declara-

1       tion), which revised the factors that the Agency con-  
2       siders when evaluating a Governor's request for a  
3       major disaster declaration authorizing individual as-  
4       sistance under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Re-  
5       lief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121  
6       et seq).

7           (2) SCOPE.—The review required under para-  
8       graph (1) shall include the following:

9           (A) An assessment of the criteria used by  
10       the Agency to assess individual assistance re-  
11       quests following a major disaster declaration  
12       authorizing individual assistance.

13          (B) An assessment of the consistency with  
14       which the Agency uses the updated Individual  
15       Assistance Declaration Factors when assessing  
16       the impact of individual communities after a  
17       major disaster declaration.

18          (C) An assessment of the impact, if any, of  
19       using the updated Individual Assistance Dec-  
20       laration Factors has had on equity in disaster  
21       recovery outcomes.

22          (D) Recommendations to improve the use  
23       of the Individual Assistance Declaration Fac-  
24       tors to increase equity in disaster recovery out-  
25       comes.

1           (3) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the  
2           date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller  
3           General shall submit to the Committee on Transpor-  
4           tation and Infrastructure of the House of Represent-  
5           atives and the Committee on Homeland Security and  
6           Governmental Affairs of the Senate a report on the  
7           review required under this section.

