

AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE

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OFFERED BY MRS. RODGERS OF WASHINGTON

Page 327, after line 22, insert the following:

1 (e) MAJOR DISASTER DECLARATION.—Section
2 401(a) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and
3 Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170) is amended
4 by adding at the end the following: “A major disaster dec-
5 laration under this section shall be made not later than
6 30 days after a request by a Governor or the Chief Execu-
7 tive of an affected Indian Tribal Government. Failure to
8 meet the 30-day requirement shall result in an automatic
9 approval of such request for a declaration.”.

10 (f) EMERGENCY DECLARATION.—Section 501(a) of
11 the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency As-
12 sistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5191) is amended by adding at
13 the end the following: “An emergency declaration under
14 this section shall be made not later than 30 days after
15 a request for a declaration by a Governor or the Chief
16 Executive of an affected Indian Tribal Government. Fail-
17 ure to meet the 30-day requirement shall result in an
18 automatic approval of such request for a declaration.”.

1 (g) ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR RURAL AREAS.—
2 Section 326 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and
3 Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5165d) is amended
4 by adding at the end the following:

5 “(d) ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR RURAL AREAS.—
6 If a disaster or emergency occurs in a rural area, regard-
7 less if a declaration has been made, the Small State and
8 Rural Advocate shall work in coordination with the State,
9 Territory or Tribal Emergency Management Agency to
10 provide guidance to the rural areas emergency manager
11 on developing a recovery team, including resources to help
12 prevent flooding, mudslides, rockslides or any other nat-
13 ural disaster that could result after a wildfire and identi-
14 fying available resources for both short-term and long-
15 term recovery, including resources to help prevent a future
16 natural disaster within the burned area.”.

17 “(e) CASE WORKER AVAILABILITY.—In a case in
18 which a request for individual assistance in a rural area
19 is made under section 408 but denied, the Small State
20 and Rural Advocate shall work in coordination with the
21 affected State, Territory or Tribal Emergency Manage-
22 ment Agency to make disaster case workers available to
23 the residents impacted by the disaster or emergency.”.

