

**AMENDMENT TO  
RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 118–36  
OFFERED BY MS. TITUS OF NEVADA**

At the end of title XVII, add the following:

1       **Subtitle D—Disaster Survivors**  
2                               **Fairness**

3 **SEC. 1761. INFORMATION SHARING FOR FEDERAL AGEN-**  
4                               **CIES.**

5       (a) ESTABLISHMENT OF UNIFIED DISASTER APPLI-  
6 CATION SYSTEM.—

7               (1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the  
8 Federal Emergency Management Agency shall estab-  
9 lish and maintain a web-based interagency electronic  
10 information sharing system, to be known as the  
11 “unified disaster application system”, to—

12                       (A) facilitate the administration of the uni-  
13 versal application for direct Federal disaster as-  
14 sistance established under section 1762;

15                       (B) carry out the purposes of disaster as-  
16 sistance programs swiftly, efficiently, and in ac-  
17 cordance with applicable laws, regulations, and  
18 the privacy and data protections provided under  
19 this section; and

1 (C) support the detection, prevention, and  
2 investigation of waste, fraud, abuse, or discrimi-  
3 nation in the administration of disaster assist-  
4 ance programs.

5 (2) AUTHORITIES OF ADMINISTRATOR.—In es-  
6 tablishing and maintaining the unified disaster ap-  
7 plication system under this subsection, the Adminis-  
8 trator may collect and maintain disaster assistance  
9 information received from a disaster assistance  
10 agency, a block grant recipient, or an applicant for  
11 a disaster assistance program and share such infor-  
12 mation with any other disaster assistance agency or  
13 block grant recipient using such system.

14 (3) REQUIREMENTS.—The Administrator shall  
15 ensure that the unified disaster application system  
16 established and maintained under this subsection—

17 (A) allows an applicant to receive status  
18 updates on an application for disaster assist-  
19 ance programs submitted through such system;

20 (B) allows for applicants to update disaster  
21 assistance information throughout the recovery  
22 journeys of such applicants in accordance with  
23 established application timeframes;

24 (C) allows for the distribution to applicants  
25 of information about additional recovery re-

1 sources that may be available in a disaster  
2 stricken area;

3 (D) provides an applicant with information  
4 and documentation relating to an application  
5 for a disaster assistance program submitted by  
6 such applicant; and

7 (E) contains any other capabilities deter-  
8 mined necessary by the head of a disaster as-  
9 sistance agency.

10 (b) DATA SECURITY.—The Administrator may facili-  
11 tate the collection of disaster assistance information into  
12 the unified disaster application system established under  
13 subsection (a) only after the following requirements have  
14 been met:

15 (1) The Administrator certifies that the unified  
16 disaster application system substantially complies  
17 with the data security standards and best practices  
18 established pursuant to subchapter II of chapter 35  
19 of title 44, United States Code, and any other appli-  
20 cable Federal information security policy.

21 (2) The Secretary of Homeland Security pub-  
22 lishes a privacy impact assessment for the unified  
23 disaster application system, in accordance with sec-  
24 tion 208(b)(1)(B) of the E-Government Act of 2002  
25 (44 U.S.C. 3501 note).

1           (3) The Administrator, after consulting with  
2 disaster assistance agencies, publishes standard  
3 rules of behavior for disaster assistance agencies,  
4 block grant recipients, and personnel granted access  
5 to disaster assistance information to protect such in-  
6 formation from improper disclosure.

7           (c) COLLECTION AND SHARING OF ADDITIONAL  
8 RECORDS AND INFORMATION.—

9           (1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator may au-  
10 thorize the additional collection, maintenance, shar-  
11 ing, and use of disaster assistance information by  
12 publishing a notice on the unified disaster applica-  
13 tion system established under subsection (a) that in-  
14 cludes a detailed description of—

15                   (A) the specific amendments to the collec-  
16 tion, maintenance, and sharing of disaster as-  
17 sistance information authorized;

18                   (B) why each such amendment to how dis-  
19 aster assistance information is collected, main-  
20 tained, or shared is necessary to carry out the  
21 purposes of a disaster assistance program and  
22 consistent with the fair information practice  
23 principles; and

24                   (C) the disaster assistance agencies and  
25 block grant recipients that will be granted ac-

1           cess to the additional information to carry out  
2           the purposes of any disaster assistance pro-  
3           gram.

4           (2) NOTICE AND PUBLICATION REQUIRE-  
5           MENTS.—The publication of a notice under para-  
6           graph (1) of a revision to the unified disaster appli-  
7           cation system of records prior to any new collection,  
8           or uses, of Privacy Act categories of records, to  
9           carry out the purposes of a disaster assistance pro-  
10          gram with regard to a disaster declared by the  
11          President under section 401 or 501 of the Robert T.  
12          Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance  
13          Act (42 U.S.C. 5170; 5191), shall be deemed to sat-  
14          isfy the notice and publication requirements of sec-  
15          tion 552a(e)(4) of title 5, United States Code, for  
16          the entire period of performance for any assistance  
17          provided under a disaster assistance program.

18          (3) WAIVER OF INFORMATION COLLECTION RE-  
19          QUIREMENTS.—

20                 (A) IN GENERAL.—Upon the declaration of  
21                 a major disaster or emergency pursuant to sec-  
22                 tions 401 or 501 of the Robert T. Stafford Dis-  
23                 aster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42  
24                 U.S.C. 5170; 5191) by the President, the Ad-  
25                 ministrator may waive the requirements of sub-

1 chapter I of chapter 35 of title 44, United  
2 States Code, with respect to voluntary collection  
3 of information for the entire period of perform-  
4 ance for any assistance provided under a dis-  
5 aster assistance program.

6 (B) TRANSPARENCY.—Upon exercising the  
7 waiver authority under subparagraph (A), the  
8 Administrator shall—

9 (i) promptly post on a website of the  
10 Federal Emergency Management Agency a  
11 brief justification for such waiver, the an-  
12 ticipated period of time such waiver will be  
13 in effect, and the disaster assistance offices  
14 within the Federal Emergency Manage-  
15 ment Agency to which such waiver shall  
16 apply; and

17 (ii) update the information relating to  
18 such waiver, as applicable.

19 (4) GAO REVIEW OF WAIVER OF INFORMATION  
20 COLLECTION REQUIREMENTS.—

21 (A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year  
22 after the date of enactment of this Act, the  
23 Comptroller General of the United States shall  
24 issue a report describing the benefits and poten-  
25 tial risks associated with authorizing the waiver

1 of the information collection requirements de-  
2 scribed in paragraph (3).

3 (B) CONTENTS.—The report required  
4 under subparagraph (A) shall include an assess-  
5 ment of the extent to which a waiver described  
6 in paragraph (3) would—

7 (i) affect the paperwork burden for in-  
8 dividuals, small businesses, State, local and  
9 tribal governments, and other persons;

10 (ii) affect the consistent application of  
11 Federal laws relating to—

12 (I) privacy and confidentiality;

13 (II) security of information; and

14 (III) access to information; and

15 (iii) encourage or deter a State or  
16 other entity from participating in the vol-  
17 untary collection of information for the du-  
18 ration of a major disaster or emergency.

19 (d) USE BY OTHER FEDERAL AGENCIES.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator may per-  
21 mit a Federal agency other than a disaster assist-  
22 ance agency listed in subparagraphs (A) through  
23 (D) of subsection (f)(3) to use the unified disaster  
24 application system established under subsection (a)  
25 for the purpose of facilitating disaster-related assist-

1           ance if such agency enters into an agreement con-  
2           taining the terms described in paragraph (2).

3           (2) AGENCY AGREEMENT.—An agreement en-  
4           tered into under paragraph (1) shall contain the fol-  
5           lowing terms:

6           (A) The Federal agency shall—

7                   (i) collect, share, maintain, and use  
8                   disaster assistance information in compli-  
9                   ance with this section and any policies of  
10                  the Federal Emergency Management  
11                  Agency and any information protection and  
12                  use policies of such Federal agency; and

13                   (ii) train any personnel granted access  
14                  to disaster assistance information on the  
15                  rules of behavior established by the Admin-  
16                  istrator under subsection (b)(3).

17           (B) In the event of any unauthorized dis-  
18           closure of disaster assistance information, the  
19           Federal agency shall—

20                   (i) notify the Administrator within 24  
21                   hours of discovering any such unauthorized  
22                   disclosure;

23                   (ii) cooperate fully with the Adminis-  
24                  trator in the investigation and remediation  
25                  of any such disclosure;



1 (iii) cooperate fully in the prosecution  
2 of a person responsible for such disclosure;  
3 and

4 (iv) assume the responsibility for any  
5 compensation, civil liability, or other reme-  
6 diation measures, whether awarded by a  
7 judgment of a court or agreed as a com-  
8 promise of any potential claims by or on  
9 behalf of an applicant, including by obtain-  
10 ing credit monitoring and remediation  
11 services, for an improper disclosure that  
12 is—

13 (I) caused, directly or indirectly,  
14 by the acts or omissions of officers,  
15 employees, and contractors of the  
16 agency; or

17 (II) from any electronic system  
18 of records that is created or main-  
19 tained by the agency pursuant to sec-  
20 tion 552a(e) of title 5, United States  
21 Code.

22 (3) PUBLICATION OF AGENCY AGREEMENT.—  
23 The Administrator shall publish an agency agree-  
24 ment entered into under this subsection on the same

1 website as the unified disaster application system es-  
2 tablished under subsection (a).

3 (e) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—The sharing and use  
4 of disaster assistance information that is subject to the  
5 requirements of section 552a of title 5, United States  
6 Code, by disaster assistance agencies and block grant re-  
7 cipients—

8 (1) shall not be—

9 (A) construed as a matching program for  
10 purposes of section 552a(a)(8) of such title; or

11 (B) subject to the remaining computer  
12 matching provisions of section 552a of such  
13 title; and

14 (2) shall be in addition to any other law pro-  
15 viding for the sharing or use of such information.

16 (f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

17 (1) APPLICANT.—The term “applicant”  
18 means—

19 (A) a person who applies for disaster as-  
20 sistance from a disaster assistance program;  
21 and

22 (B) a person on whose behalf a person de-  
23 scribed in subparagraph (A) has applied for dis-  
24 aster assistance.

1           (2) BLOCK GRANT RECIPIENT.—The term  
2           “block grant recipient” means a State, local govern-  
3           ment, or Indian Tribe that receives assistance  
4           through the disaster assistance program described in  
5           paragraph (5)(B)(i).

6           (3) DISASTER ASSISTANCE AGENCY.—The term  
7           “disaster assistance agency” means—

8                   (A) the Federal Emergency Management  
9                   Agency;

10                   (B) the Department of Housing and  
11                   Urban Development;

12                   (C) the Small Business Administration;

13                   (D) the Department of Agriculture; and

14                   (E) any other Federal agency that the Ad-  
15                   ministrators permits to use the unified disaster  
16                   application system under subsection (d).

17           (4) DISASTER ASSISTANCE INFORMATION.—The  
18           term “disaster assistance information” includes any  
19           personal, demographic, biographical, geographical,  
20           financial information, or other information that a  
21           disaster assistance agency or block grant recipient is  
22           authorized to collect, maintain, share, or use to proc-  
23           ess an application for disaster assistance or other-  
24           wise carry out a disaster assistance program.

1           (5) DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.—The  
2 term “disaster assistance program” means—

3           (A) any program that provides assistance  
4 to individuals and households under title IV or  
5 title V of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief  
6 and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170  
7 et seq.); or

8           (B) any other assistance program carried  
9 out by a disaster assistance agency that pro-  
10 vides assistance to an individual, household, or  
11 organization related to a major disaster or  
12 emergency declared under sections 401 or 501  
13 of such Act, including—

14           (i) assistance for activities related to  
15 disaster relief, long-term recovery, restora-  
16 tion of infrastructure and housing, eco-  
17 nomic revitalization, and mitigation that  
18 are authorized under title I of the Housing  
19 and Community Development Act of 1974  
20 (42 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.);

21           (ii) any loan that is authorized under  
22 section 7(b) of the Small Business Act (15  
23 U.S.C. 636(b)); and

24           (iii) the distribution of food benefit al-  
25 lotments as authorized under section 412

1 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief  
2 and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C.  
3 5179) and section 5(h) of the Food Stamp  
4 Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 2014(h)).

5 **SEC. 1762. UNIVERSAL APPLICATION FOR INDIVIDUAL AS-**  
6 **SISTANCE.**

7 (a) UNIVERSAL APPLICATION.—The Administrator  
8 of the Federal Emergency Management Agency shall de-  
9 velop and establish a universal application for direct Fed-  
10 eral disaster assistance for individuals in areas impacted  
11 by emergencies or disasters.

12 (b) CONSULTATION AND SUPPORT.—

13 (1) CONSULTATION.—In carrying out this sec-  
14 tion, the Administrator shall consult with the fol-  
15 lowing:

16 (A) The Director of the Office of Manage-  
17 ment and Budget.

18 (B) The Administrator of the Small Busi-  
19 ness Administration.

20 (C) The Secretary of Housing and Urban  
21 Development.

22 (D) The Secretary of Agriculture.

23 (2) SUPPORT.—The entities described in para-  
24 graph (1) shall provide prompt support to the Ad-  
25 ministrator.

1 (c) SURVEY.—The application established under sub-  
2 section (a) shall include a voluntary survey to collect the  
3 demographic data of an applicant.

4 (d) GAO ASSESSMENT ON IDENTITY THEFT AND  
5 DISASTER FRAUD IN DISASTER ASSISTANCE PRO-  
6 GRAMS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enact-  
7 ment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United  
8 States shall—

9 (1) conduct an assessment of improper and po-  
10 tentially fraudulent Federal disaster assistance for  
11 individuals made to survivors of major disasters de-  
12 clared in 2020 and 2021, including through identity  
13 theft; and

14 (2) submit to the Committee on Transportation  
15 and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives  
16 and the Committee on Homeland Security and Gov-  
17 ernmental Affairs of the Senate a report that de-  
18 scribes—

19 (A) the prevalence of improper and poten-  
20 tially fraudulent Federal disaster assistance for  
21 individuals made to registrants who used invalid  
22 information to apply for disaster assistance, in-  
23 cluding through identity theft;

24 (B) the number of disaster survivors whose  
25 claims for Federal disaster assistance for indi-

1 individuals were denied due to another individual  
2 filing a fraudulent application using their per-  
3 sonal identifying information;

4 (C) the adequacy of existing fraud preven-  
5 tion protocols in place on the Federal Emer-  
6 gency Management Agency’s online application  
7 for Federal disaster assistance for individuals;  
8 and

9 (D) recommendations for improving the  
10 identity verification protocols in place for Fed-  
11 eral disaster assistance for individuals.

12 **SEC. 1763. REPAIR AND REBUILDING.**

13 Section 408 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief  
14 and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5174) is  
15 amended—

16 (1) in subsection (c) by adding at the end the  
17 following:

18 “(5) HAZARD MITIGATION.—

19 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The President may  
20 provide financial assistance to individuals and  
21 households whose primary residence, utilities, or  
22 residential infrastructure are damaged by a  
23 major disaster, for cost-effective hazard mitiga-  
24 tion measures that reduce threats to life and

1 property, or future damage to such residence,  
2 utilities, or infrastructure in future disasters.

3 “(B) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER ASSIST-  
4 ANCE.—A recipient of assistance provided  
5 under this paragraph shall not be required to  
6 show that the assistance can be met through  
7 other means, except insurance proceeds.”; and  
8 (2) in subsection (h)—

9 (A) in paragraph (1) by inserting “, finan-  
10 cial assistance for hazard mitigation under sub-  
11 section (c)(5)(A),” after “subsection  
12 (c)(1)(A)(i)”;

13 (B) in paragraph (3) by striking “para-  
14 graphs (1) and (2)” and inserting “paragraphs  
15 (1), (2), and (3)”;

16 (C) by adding at the end the following:

17 “(5) HAZARD MITIGATION.—The maximum fi-  
18 nancial assistance any individual or household may  
19 receive under subsection (c)(5) shall be equivalent to  
20 the amount set forth in paragraph (1) with respect  
21 to a single major disaster.”.

22 **SEC. 1764. DIRECT ASSISTANCE.**

23 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 408(c) of the Robert T.  
24 Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act



1 (42 U.S.C. 5174(c)) is further amended by striking para-  
2 graph (2) and inserting the following:

3 “(2) REPAIRS.—

4 “(A) FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR RE-  
5 PAIRS.—The President may provide financial  
6 assistance for the repair of owner-occupied pri-  
7 vate residences, utilities, and residential infra-  
8 structure (such as a private access route) dam-  
9 aged by a major disaster, or with respect to in-  
10 dividuals with disabilities, rendered inaccessible  
11 by a major disaster.

12 “(B) DIRECT ASSISTANCE FOR REPAIRS.—

13 “(i) IN GENERAL.—The President  
14 may provide direct assistance to individuals  
15 and households who are unable to make  
16 use of financial assistance under subpara-  
17 graph (A) and when there is a lack of  
18 available resources, for—

19 “(I) the repair of owner-occupied  
20 private residences, utilities, and resi-  
21 dential infrastructure (such as a pri-  
22 vate access route) damaged by a  
23 major disaster, or with respect to indi-  
24 viduals with disabilities, rendered in-  
25 accessible by a disaster; and

1                   “(II) eligible hazard mitigation  
2                   measures that reduce the likelihood  
3                   and future damage to such residences,  
4                   utilities, and infrastructure.

5                   “(ii) ELIGIBILITY.—A recipient of as-  
6                   sistance under this subparagraph shall not  
7                   be eligible for assistance under paragraph  
8                   (1), unless otherwise determined by the  
9                   Administrator.

10                  “(C) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER ASSIST-  
11                  ANCE.—A recipient of assistance provided  
12                  under this paragraph shall not be required to  
13                  show that the assistance can be met through  
14                  other means, except insurance proceeds.”.

15                  (b) STATE- OR INDIAN TRIBAL GOVERNMENT-AD-  
16                  MINISTERED ASSISTANCE AND OTHER NEEDS ASSIST-  
17                  ANCE.—Section 408(f) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster  
18                  Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5174(f))  
19                  is amended—

20                         (1) by striking “subsections (c)(1)(B), (c)(4),  
21                         and (e)” each place it appears and inserting “para-  
22                         graphs (1)(B), (2)(B), and (4) of subsection (c) and  
23                         subsection (e)”; and

24                         (2) in paragraph (3)(A) by striking “subsection  
25                         (c)(1)(B), (c)(4), or (e)” and inserting “paragraph

1 (1)(B), (2)(B), or (4) of subsection (c) or subsection  
2 (e)”.

3 **SEC. 1765. STATE-MANAGED HOUSING PILOT AUTHORITY.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 408 of the Robert T.  
5 Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act  
6 (42 U.S.C. 5174) is amended—

7 (1) in subsection (f)(3)—

8 (A) in subparagraph (A)—

9 (i) by striking “A State” and insert-  
10 ing the following:

11 “(i) IN GENERAL.—A State”; and

12 (ii) by adding at the end the fol-  
13 lowing:

14 “(ii) TRANSPARENCY.—The President  
15 shall make public the criteria used to  
16 evaluate applications under clause (i) and  
17 determine if a State or Indian tribal gov-  
18 ernment meets the criteria described in  
19 subparagraph (B) to administer grants de-  
20 scribed in paragraph (1)(A).”;

21 (B) in subparagraph (C)(ii)—

22 (i) in subclause (I) by striking “;  
23 and” and inserting a semicolon;

1 (ii) in subclause (II) by striking the  
2 period at the end and inserting a semi-  
3 colon; and

4 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-  
5 lowing:

6 “(III) outline the approach of the  
7 State to help disaster survivors create  
8 a permanent housing plan; and

9 “(IV) outline the approach of the  
10 State to provide individual disaster  
11 survivors some choice of communities  
12 and properties, as practicable.”;

13 (C) by striking subparagraph (F);

14 (D) by redesignating subparagraphs (G),  
15 (H), (I), and (J) as subparagraphs (F), (G),  
16 (H), and (I), respectively; and

17 (E) in subparagraph (I), as so redesign-  
18 nated—

19 (i) in clause (ii) by striking “Not later  
20 than 2 years after the date of enactment  
21 of this paragraph, the” and inserting  
22 “The”; and

23 (ii) in clause (iii) by striking “2  
24 years” and inserting “10 years”; and

25 (2) in subsection (g)—

1 (A) in paragraph (1) by striking “para-  
2 graph (2)” and inserting “paragraphs (2) and  
3 (3)”; and

4 (B) by adding at the end the following:

5 “(3) DISASTER ASSISTANCE.—In the case of as-  
6 sistance provided under subsections (c)(1)(B),  
7 (c)(2)(B), and (c)(4), the Federal share shall be not  
8 less than 75 percent.”.

9 (b) GAO ASSESSMENT.—Upon the expiration of the  
10 authority to carry out section 408(f) of the Robert T.  
11 Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act  
12 (42 U.S.C. 5174(f)) as a pilot program, the Comptroller  
13 General of the United States shall issue a report on the  
14 effectiveness, successes, and challenges of any pilot pro-  
15 gram carried out pursuant to such section and make rec-  
16 ommendations on how to improve the provision of assist-  
17 ance under such section.

18 **SEC. 1766. MANAGEMENT COSTS.**

19 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 324(b)(2) of the Robert  
20 T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act  
21 (42 U.S.C. 5165b(b)(2)) is amended by adding at the end  
22 the following:

23 “(C) INDIVIDUAL ASSISTANCE.—A grantee  
24 under section 408(f) may be reimbursed not

1 more than 12 percent of the total award  
2 amount under each such section.”.

3 (b) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—Section 408(f)(1) of  
4 the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency As-  
5 sistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5174), as amended by section  
6 1764(b), is amended—

7 (1) by striking “(A) GRANT TO STATE.—” and  
8 all that follows through “subsection (g),” and insert-  
9 ing “Subject to subsection (g),”; and

10 (2) by striking subparagraph (B).

11 **SEC. 1767. FUNDING FOR ONLINE GUIDES FOR POST-DIS-**  
12 **ASTER ASSISTANCE.**

13 (a) USE OF SERVICES OF OTHER AGENCIES.—Sec-  
14 tion 201(a) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and  
15 Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5131(a)) is amend-  
16 ed—

17 (1) in paragraph (7), by striking the period at  
18 the end and inserting “; and”; and

19 (2) by adding at the end the following:

20 “(8) post-disaster assistance.”.

21 (b) GRANTS FOR ONLINE GUIDES FOR ASSIST-  
22 ANCE.—Section 201 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster  
23 Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5131)  
24 is amended by adding at the end the following:

1       “(e) FUNDING FOR ONLINE GUIDES FOR ASSIST-  
2 ANCE.—

3           “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the  
4 Federal Emergency Management Agency may pro-  
5 vide funding to a State agency established under  
6 subsection (c) to establish, update, or operate a  
7 website to provide information relating to post-dis-  
8 aster recovery funding and resources to a community  
9 or an individual impacted by a major disaster or  
10 emergency.

11          “(2) MANAGEMENT.—A website created under  
12 this subsection shall be—

13           “(A) managed by the State agency; and

14           “(B) suitable for the residents of the State  
15 of the State agency.

16          “(3) CONTENT.—The Administrator may pro-  
17 vide funding to a State agency under this subsection  
18 to establish a website that contains only 1 or more  
19 of the following:

20           “(A) A list of Federal, State, and local  
21 sources of post-disaster recovery funding or as-  
22 sistance that may be available to a community  
23 after a major disaster or emergency.

24           “(B) A list of Federal, State, and local  
25 sources of post-disaster recovery funding or as-

1           sistance that may be available to an individual  
2           impacted by a major disaster or emergency.

3           “(C) A technical guide that lists and ex-  
4           plains the costs and benefits of alternatives  
5           available to a community to mitigate the im-  
6           pacts of a major disaster or emergency and pre-  
7           pare for sequential hazards such as flooding  
8           after a wildfire.

9           “(4) COOPERATION.—A State agency that re-  
10          ceives funding under this subsection shall cooperate  
11          with the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of  
12          Agriculture, the Secretary of Housing and Urban  
13          Development, the Administrator of the Small Busi-  
14          ness Administration, and the Administrator of the  
15          Federal Emergency Management Agency in devel-  
16          oping a website under this subsection.

17          “(5) UPDATES.—A State agency that receives  
18          funding to establish a website under this subsection  
19          shall update the website not less than once every 6  
20          months.

21          “(6) TERMINATION OF AUTHORITY.—The au-  
22          thority provided under this subsection shall termi-  
23          nate 1 year after the first date on which appropria-  
24          tions are made on or after the date of enactment of  
25          this subsection to carry out this subsection.”.



1 **SEC. 1768. INDIVIDUAL ASSISTANCE DASHBOARD.**

2 Title IV of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and  
3 Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170 et seq.) is  
4 amended by adding at the end the following:

5 **“SEC. 431. INDIVIDUAL ASSISTANCE DASHBOARD.**

6 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after a  
7 declaration by the President that a major disaster exists  
8 under section 401, the Administrator of the Federal  
9 Emergency Management Agency shall publish on a  
10 website of the Agency an interactive web tool displaying  
11 the following information with respect to such disaster:

12 “(1) The number of applications for assistance  
13 under section 408, including a description of the  
14 number of applications for assistance related to  
15 housing under such section and the number of appli-  
16 cations for assistance to address other needs under  
17 section 408(e).

18 “(2) The number of applications for such as-  
19 sistance that are approved.

20 “(3) The number of applications for such as-  
21 sistance that are denied.

22 “(4) A ranked list of the reasons for the denial  
23 of such applications, including the number of appli-  
24 cations for each reason for denial.

1           “(5) If available, the dollar amount of assist-  
2           ance provided pursuant to section 408 to applicants  
3           who are—

4                   “(A) property owners with a household an-  
5           nual income—

6                           “(i) above the national median house-  
7                           hold income; and

8                           “(ii) below the national median house-  
9                           hold income; and

10                   “(B) renters with a household annual in-  
11           come—

12                           “(i) above the national median house-  
13                           hold income; and

14                           “(ii) below the national median house-  
15                           hold income.

16           “(6) The estimated percentage of residential  
17           property that was destroyed as a result of the major  
18           disaster, if available.

19           “(7) Any other information that the Adminis-  
20           trator determines to be relevant.

21           “(b) PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION.—  
22           The Administrator shall ensure that none of the informa-  
23           tion published under subsection (a) contains the personally  
24           identifiable information of an applicant.”.

1 **SEC. 1769. FEMA REPORTS.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the  
3 date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the  
4 Federal Emergency Management Agency shall submit to  
5 the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of  
6 the House of Representatives and the Committee on  
7 Homeland Security and Government Affairs of the Senate  
8 a report with respect to fiscal year 2016 through the most  
9 recent fiscal year ending before the date of enactment of  
10 this Act, and an annual report for any fiscal year begin-  
11 ning on or after the date of enactment of this Act, describ-  
12 ing—

13 (1) the average amount of individual assistance  
14 and individual and household assistance provided  
15 under section 408 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster  
16 Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C.  
17 5121 et seq.) to, and the rate of denial of individual  
18 assistance and individual and household assistance  
19 provided under such section for—

20 (A) all individuals;

21 (B) households;

22 (C) individuals and households with a re-  
23 ported annual income under 75 percent of the  
24 national median household income;

1 (D) individuals with a reported annual in-  
2 come over 125 percent of the national median  
3 household income; and

4 (E) individuals with a reported annual in-  
5 come between 75 percent and 125 percent of  
6 the national median household income; and

7 (2) an explanation for any factors causing an  
8 increase in the rate of denial of the assistance de-  
9 scribed in paragraph (1), if applicable.

10 (b) INFORMATION REQUIRED.—In the report sub-  
11 mitted under subsection (a), the Administrator shall de-  
12 scribe the number of homeowners and the number of rent-  
13 ers for each category of individuals and households de-  
14 scribed in subparagraphs (C) through (E) of subsection  
15 (a)(1).

16 **SEC. 1770. SHELTERING OF EMERGENCY RESPONSE PER-**  
17 **SONNEL.**

18 Section 403 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief  
19 and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170b) is  
20 amended by adding at the end the following:

21 “(e) SHELTERING OF EMERGENCY RESPONSE PER-  
22 SONNEL.—

23 “(1) IN GENERAL.—For any major disaster for  
24 which the President has authorized emergency pro-  
25 tective measures for an area within the jurisdiction

1 of a State, tribal, or local government, the Adminis-  
2 trator may reimburse the State, tribal, or local gov-  
3 ernment for costs relating to sheltering emergency  
4 response personnel, including individuals that are a  
5 part of the same predisaster household as such per-  
6 sonnel, in exclusive-use congregate or non-con-  
7 gregate settings if the Governor of the State or chief  
8 executive of the tribal or local government deter-  
9 mines that the damage or disruption to such area is  
10 of such a magnitude as to disrupt the provision of  
11 emergency protective measures within such area.

12 “(2) LIMITATION OF ASSISTANCE.—

13 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator  
14 may only reimburse a State, tribal, or local gov-  
15 ernment for the costs of sheltering emergency  
16 response personnel under paragraph (1) for  
17 such a period of time as the Administrator de-  
18 termines reasonable based in the individual  
19 characteristics of and impacts to the affected  
20 area, including the extent of damage, the avail-  
21 ability of alternative housing options, the avail-  
22 ability of utilities, and disruptions to transpor-  
23 tation infrastructure.

24 “(B) MAXIMUM DURATION OF REIMBURSE-  
25 MENT.—The period of reimbursement under

1           subparagraph (A) may not exceed the 6-month  
2           period beginning on the date on which the inci-  
3           dent period ends.

4           “(3) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the term  
5           ‘emergency response personnel’ means—

6                   “(A) employees or contracted employees  
7                   providing law enforcement, fire suppression,  
8                   rescue, emergency medical, emergency manage-  
9                   ment, or emergency communications services;  
10                  and

11                   “(B) elected officials, except members of  
12                   Congress, responsible for the overseeing or di-  
13                   recting emergency response operations or recov-  
14                   ery activities.”.

15   **SEC. 1771. IMPROVED RENTAL ASSISTANCE.**

16           (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 408(c)(1)(A)(ii) of the  
17   Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assist-  
18   ance Act (42 U.S.C. 5174(c)(1)(A)(ii)) is amended by in-  
19   serting “, including local post-disaster rent increases,”  
20   after “accommodation provided”.

21           (b) STUDY.—Not later than 1 year after the date of  
22   enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Federal  
23   Emergency Management Agency shall conduct a study to  
24   examine the unique challenges of renters when seeking  
25   Federal disaster assistance and any disparities of assist-

1 ance provided to homeowners and renters pursuant to sec-  
2 tion 408 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and  
3 Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5174) and develop  
4 a plan that addresses any identified challenges and dis-  
5 parities, including any recommendations for legislative ac-  
6 tion.

7 (c) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Upon completion of the  
8 activities carried out under subsection (b), the Adminis-  
9 trator shall submit to the Committee on Transportation  
10 and Infrastructure, the Committee on Financial Services,  
11 and the Committee on Small Business of the House of  
12 Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security  
13 and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a report con-  
14 taining the study and recommendations required under  
15 subsection (b).

16 (d) CONSULTATION.—In completing the study and  
17 report required under subsections (b) and (c), the Admin-  
18 istrator shall consult with appropriate Federal entities and  
19 stakeholders involved in disaster housing.

20 **SEC. 1772. GAO REPORT ON PRELIMINARY DAMAGE AS-**  
21 **SESSMENTS.**

22 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Comptroller General of the  
23 United States shall conduct a study on the practices, in-  
24 cluding the accuracy of such practices, that the Federal  
25 Emergency Management Agency uses when conducting

1 preliminary damage assessments for the purposes of pro-  
2 viding assistance under section 408 of the Robert T. Staf-  
3 ford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42.  
4 U.S.C. 5174).

5 (b) CONTENTS.—The Comptroller General shall in-  
6 clude in the study conducted under subsection (a) the fol-  
7 lowing:

8 (1) A comparison of the process and procedures  
9 used by the Federal Emergency Management Agen-  
10 cy to complete preliminary damage assessments to  
11 the process and procedures used by private insur-  
12 ance companies following a major disaster.

13 (2) A review of training provided to individuals  
14 conducting preliminary damage assessments.

15 (3) A comparison of damage estimates for  
16 homes owned by individuals above the national me-  
17 dian income to homes owned by individuals at or  
18 below the national median income.

19 **SEC. 1773. GAO REPORT TO CONGRESS ON CHALLENGES**  
20 **UNDER PUBLIC ASSISTANCE ALTERNATIVE**  
21 **PROCEDURES.**

22 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Comptroller General of the  
23 United States shall conduct a study on the challenges to  
24 States and Territories of the United States in obtaining  
25 assistance under section 428 of the Robert T. Stafford



1 Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C.  
2 5189f).

3 (b) CONTENTS.—In conducting the study described  
4 in subsection (a), the Comptroller General shall study the  
5 challenges for assistance described in subsection (a) faced  
6 by the following:

7 (1) Rural areas, as such term is defined in sec-  
8 tion 423 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief  
9 and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5189a).

10 (2) Small impoverished communities, as such  
11 term is defined in section 203 of such Act.

12 (3) Other communities, areas, or individuals  
13 that the Comptroller General determines pertinent.

14 (c) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 1 year  
15 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller  
16 General shall submit to Congress a report describing the  
17 results of the study required under subsection (a).

18 **SEC. 1774. APPLICABILITY; DEFINITIONS.**

19 (a) APPLICABILITY.—The amendments made by sec-  
20 tions 1763, 1764, 1766, 1767, and 1770 shall only apply  
21 to amounts appropriated on or after the date of enactment  
22 of this Act.

23 (b) DEFINITIONS.—Except as otherwise provided, the  
24 terms used in this subtitle have the meanings given such

- 1 terms in section 102 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster
- 2 Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5122).

