

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5780

To direct the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to continue to obligate and disburse covered funds in the Disaster Relief Fund during a lapse in appropriations, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 17, 2025

Mr. MOSKOWITZ (for himself and Mr. CARTER of Louisiana) 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 continue to obligate and disburse covered funds in the Disaster Relief Fund during a lapse in appropriations, 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 “Federal Emergency
5 Management Continuity Act of 2025”.

6 **SEC. 2. CONTINUITY OF OPERATIONS OF FEMA.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provi-
8 sion of law, during a lapse in appropriations to the Federal

1 Emergency Management Agency, the Administrator of the
2 Agency shall continue obligating and disbursing covered
3 funds available in the Disaster Relief Fund for covered
4 programs.

5 (b) EMPLOYEES.—Employees necessary to carry out
6 disbursements or related program activities under sub-
7 section (a) shall be treated as excepted employees under
8 section 1341 of title 31, United States Code (commonly
9 referred to as the ‘Anti-Deficiency Act’) and such employ-
10 ees may not be subject to furlough or reduction in force
11 due to the applicable lapse in appropriations.

12 (c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

13 (1) COVERED FUNDS.—The term “covered
14 funds” means any funds in the Disaster Relief Fund
15 that have been appropriated before the applicable
16 lapse in appropriation and remain available to be ex-
17 pended.

18 (2) COVERED PROGRAMS.—The term “covered
19 program” means any disaster relief, emergency as-
20 sistance, and recovery program authorized under the
21 Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency
22 Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.), including
23 individual assistance under section 408 of such Act,
24 public assistance under sections 403, 406, 407, and
25 502, and other disbursements and obligations made

- 1 from the Disaster Relief Fund for programs or ac-
- 2 tivities necessary to protect life and property during
- 3 a lapse in appropriations.

