

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 9292

To amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to prohibit determinations of Federal disaster assistance, funding, or relief on the basis of political affiliation and to establish a response timeline for requests for major disaster declarations, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 11, 2026

Mr. NEGUSE (for himself and Ms. SCHRIER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to prohibit determinations of Federal disaster assistance, funding, or relief on the basis of political affiliation and to establish a response timeline for requests for major disaster declarations, 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 “Disaster Relief Integ-
5 rity and Independence Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITING POLITICAL INTERFERENCE IN FED-**
2 **ERAL DISASTER ASSISTANCE.**

3 Section 308 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief
4 and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5151) is
5 amended—

6 (1) by redesignating subsection (b) as sub-
7 section (c); and

8 (2) by inserting after subsection (a) the fol-
9 lowing:

10 “(b) The President may not make determinations of
11 Federal disaster assistance, including declarations of
12 emergencies or major disasters, Federal funding, and
13 other relief and assistance under this Act on the basis of
14 political affiliation within a State, territory, or locality.”.

15 **SEC. 3. TIMELINESS IN DISASTER RESPONSE.**

16 Section 401 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief
17 and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170) is
18 amended by adding at the end the following:

19 “(d) TIMELINESS IN DISASTER RESPONSE.—

20 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 45 days
21 after receipt of a request for a major disaster dec-
22 laration under this section from a State, Tribal, or
23 territorial government, the President shall respond
24 to each such request.

25 “(2) AUTOMATIC APPROVAL.—Any request
26 made under paragraph (1) to which the President

1 does not respond not later than 45 days after receipt
2 of such request shall be deemed approved.

3 “(3) LIMITATION.—The deadline under para-
4 graph (1) shall not prevent submission and approval
5 of disaster declaration amendment requests by a
6 State, Tribal, or territorial government.”.

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