

113TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 3347

To require the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to report on the disaster assistance obligations of the Federal Government, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 28, 2013

Mr. ROTHFUS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

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## A BILL

To require the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to report on the disaster assistance obligations of the Federal Government, 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 Assistance  
5 Transparency and Accountability Act of 2013” or the  
6 “DATA Act of 2013”.

7 **SEC. 2. DISASTER ASSISTANCE REPORTS.**

8 (a) DISASTER ASSISTANCE SPENDING REPORT.—

1           (1) INITIAL REPORT.—Not later than 180 days  
2 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director  
3 of the Office of Management and Budget shall sub-  
4 mit to Congress a report that specifies—

5           (A) for each of the 10 fiscal years most re-  
6 cently concluded before submission of the re-  
7 port, the amount obligated by the Federal Gov-  
8 ernment for disaster assistance, including the  
9 amount obligated for disaster assistance—

10           (i) by each Federal department or  
11 agency that made an obligation relating to  
12 disaster assistance; and

13           (ii) under each relevant program,  
14 project, or activity of such department or  
15 agency; and

16           (B) for the fiscal year in which the report  
17 is submitted, the amount projected to be obli-  
18 gated by the Federal Government for disaster  
19 assistance, including the amount projected to be  
20 obligated for disaster assistance—

21           (i) by each Federal department or  
22 agency that has made or may make an ob-  
23 ligation relating to disaster assistance; and

1                   (ii) under each relevant program,  
2                   project, or activity of such department or  
3                   agency.

4                   (2) ANNUAL REPORT.—Each year in conjunc-  
5                   tion with the President’s annual budget submission  
6                   to Congress under section 1105(a) of title 31,  
7                   United States Code, the Director of the Office of  
8                   Management and Budget shall submit to Congress a  
9                   report that specifies—

10                   (A) for the fiscal year for which the budget  
11                   is submitted, the amount projected to be obli-  
12                   gated for disaster assistance by—

13                   (i) each Federal department or agency  
14                   that may make an obligation relating to  
15                   disaster assistance; and

16                   (ii) each relevant program, project, or  
17                   activity of such department or agency;

18                   (B) for the fiscal year in which the budget  
19                   is submitted, the amount projected to be obli-  
20                   gated for disaster assistance by—

21                   (i) each Federal department or agency  
22                   that has made or may make an obligation  
23                   relating to disaster assistance; and

24                   (ii) each relevant program, project, or  
25                   activity of such department or agency;

1 (C) for the most-recently concluded fiscal  
2 year, the amount obligated for disaster assist-  
3 ance by—

4 (i) each Federal department or agency  
5 that made an obligation relating to dis-  
6 aster assistance; and

7 (ii) each relevant program, project, or  
8 activity of such department or agency; and

9 (D) any corrections to reports previously  
10 submitted under this subsection.

11 (b) BIENNIAL REPORT EVALUATING EFFECTIVE-  
12 NESS OF DISASTER ASSISTANCE SPENDING.—Not later  
13 than 180 days after the date on which the report under  
14 subsection (a)(1) is submitted, and every 2 years there-  
15 after, the Comptroller General of the United States shall  
16 submit to the Committee on Appropriations and the Com-  
17 mittee on the Budget of the House of Representatives and  
18 the Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on  
19 the Budget of the Senate a report that provides—

20 (1) an evaluation of Federal disaster assistance  
21 spending, including the identification of areas of po-  
22 tential duplication, waste, fraud, or abuse;

23 (2) recommendations on how Federal depart-  
24 ments and agencies can improve transparency in and  
25 better account for disaster assistance spending to

1 ensure that funds are spent in an effective and effi-  
2 cient manner; and

3 (3) an evaluation of the effectiveness and equity  
4 of the current system of cost-sharing with respect to  
5 disaster assistance spending, including the system's  
6 effectiveness in reducing the Federal cost of disaster  
7 assistance and promoting non-Federal investment in  
8 disaster recovery, mitigation, and preparedness.

9 (c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the following defi-  
10 nitions apply:

11 (1) DISASTER.—The term “disaster” means  
12 any natural, accidental, or manmade catastrophe in  
13 any part of the United States, including a territory  
14 or possession of the United States, which causes, or  
15 which may cause, substantial damage or injury,  
16 without regard to whether such catastrophe results  
17 in a declaration of a major disaster or emergency  
18 under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and  
19 Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.).

20 (2) DISASTER ASSISTANCE.—The term “dis-  
21 aster assistance” means any Federal activity, includ-  
22 ing the provision of financial assistance, carried out  
23 to assist a public or private entity affected by the oc-  
24 currence of a disaster.

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