

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4992

To require the Federal Emergency Management Agency to use appropriated funds to restore agency staffing levels, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 19, 2025

Mr. CASAR (for himself, Mr. NEGUSE, Mr. AMO, Mr. MOSKOWITZ, Ms. HOYLE of Oregon, Mr. STANTON, and Mr. DOGGETT) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To require the Federal Emergency Management Agency to use appropriated funds to restore agency staffing levels, 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 “FEMA Critical Staff-
5 ing Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress finds that—

1 (1) the Federal Emergency Management Agen-
2 cy supports communities before disasters happen to
3 help understand and prepare for possible risks, dur-
4 ing disasters to assist the public and provide recov-
5 ery centers, and after a disaster to support recovery
6 and mitigating future hazards; and

7 (2) due to frequent climate change-fueled disas-
8 ters like winter wildfires, hail from thunderstorms,
9 and hurricanes, the Federal Emergency Manage-
10 ment Agency works year-round to support commu-
11 nities across the United States.

12 **SEC. 3. FEDERAL WEATHER MONITORING AND DISASTER**
13 **RESPONSE WORKFORCE LEVEL REQUIRE.**

14 Not later than 30 days after the date of the enact-
15 ment of this Act and notwithstanding any other provision
16 of law, funds appropriated or otherwise made to for the
17 Federal Emergency Management Agency shall be used to
18 reinstate to a position in the Federal Emergency Manage-
19 ment Agency each individual who—

20 (1) during the period beginning on January 20,
21 2025, and ending on the date of the enactment of
22 this Act, was involuntarily separated from service in
23 a position in the Federal Emergency Management
24 Agency; and

25 (2) elects to be so reinstated.

1 **SEC. 4. CONTINUATION OF AUTHORIZED FEMA PROGRAMS.**

2 (a) REQUIREMENTS.—The Administrator of the Fed-
3 eral Emergency Management Agency—

4 (1) shall continue to carry out any programs
5 for which funds have been appropriated that support
6 State and local efforts to prepare for and respond to
7 extreme weather events; and

8 (2) may not make any changes to existing con-
9 gressionally mandated programs that will reduce ac-
10 cess to extreme weather resources.

11 (b) ACTIONS REQUIRED.—In carrying out subsection
12 (a), the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Manage-
13 ment Agency shall—

14 (1) immediately reinstate the Building Resilient
15 Infrastructure and Communities program (estab-
16 lished pursuant to section 203(i) of the Robert T.
17 Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance
18 Act (42 U.S.C. 5133(i))) and carry out any project
19 under such program for which funds have been
20 made available; and

21 (2) immediately reinstate the flood mitigation
22 assistance program authorized under section 1366 of
23 the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42
24 U.S.C. 4104c) and carry out any project for which
25 funds have been made available under such program.