

115TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 6169

To establish a pilot program for long-term rental assistance for families affected by major disasters in 2017.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 20, 2018

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

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## A BILL

To establish a pilot program for long-term rental assistance for families affected by major disasters in 2017.

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 Housing As-  
5 sistance Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act—

8 (1) the term “Administrator” means Adminis-  
9 trator of the Federal Emergency Management Agen-  
10 cy;

1           (2) the term “covered disaster” means a major  
2 disaster declared by the President under section 401  
3 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emer-  
4 gency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170) during 2017,  
5 including with respect to Hurricane Maria;

6           (3) the term “eligible families” means families  
7 that the Administrator determines are eligible for  
8 housing assistance under section 408 of the Robert  
9 T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assist-  
10 ance Act (42 U.S.C. 5174);

11           (4) the terms “families” has the meaning given  
12 the term in section 3(b) of the United States Hous-  
13 ing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437a(b)); and

14           (5) the term “Secretary” means the Secretary  
15 of Housing and Urban Development.

16 **SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF DISASTER HOUSING ASSIST-**  
17 **ANCE PROGRAM FOR MAJOR DISASTERS IN**  
18 **2017.**

19           (a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section  
20 408(a)(1) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and  
21 Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5174(a)(1)), not  
22 later than 10 days after the date of enactment of this Act,  
23 the Administrator shall enter into an agreement or agree-  
24 ments with the Secretary to establish a temporary pro-  
25 gram that provides long-term rental housing assistance

1 under such section 408 to eligible families affected by a  
2 covered disaster.

3 (b) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The design and administra-  
4 tion of the program established under subsection (a) shall  
5 be determined by the Secretary, in consultation with the  
6 Administrator, to ensure optimal program effectiveness.

7 (c) GAO REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than  
8 January 20, 2020, the Comptroller General of the United  
9 States shall submit to Congress a report that examines  
10 the results of the program established under subsection  
11 (a), including the cost-effectiveness of the program and  
12 the ability of families participating in the program to sta-  
13 bilize their living situation.

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