

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**S.** \_\_\_\_\_

To amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to require the President to provide assistance for predisaster hazard mitigation measures and adjust the Federal cost share for certain building resilient infrastructure and communities projects, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

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Mr. REED (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on

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**A BILL**

To amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to require the President to provide assistance for predisaster hazard mitigation measures and adjust the Federal cost share for certain building resilient infrastructure and communities projects, 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 “Building Resilience  
5       and Stronger Communities Act”.

1   **SEC. 2. FEDERAL SHARE ADJUSTMENT.**

2           Section 203(h) of the Robert. T. Stafford Disaster  
3   Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5133(h))  
4   is amended by adding at the end the following:

5           “(3) SMALL PROJECTS.—Notwithstanding para-  
6   graph (1), the President shall contribute not less  
7   than 90 percent of the total cost of a mitigation ac-  
8   tivity, the cost of which is less than \$1,000,000.

9           “(4) CRITICAL FACILITIES.—

10           “(A) DEFINITION.—In this paragraph, the  
11   term ‘critical facility’—

12           “(i) means a building that is essential  
13   for the delivery of a vital service or the  
14   protection of a community; and

15           “(ii) includes an emergency operation  
16   center, a healthcare facility, a police or fire  
17   stations, a school, and a power station.

18           “(B) COST SHARE ADJUSTMENT.—Not-  
19   withstanding paragraph (1), the President may  
20   contribute more than 90 percent of the total  
21   cost of a mitigation activity involving a critical  
22   facility, the cost of which is less than  
23   \$1,000,000.”.

1 **SEC. 3. MANDATORY MITIGATION.**

2 Section 203 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief  
3 and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5133) is  
4 amended—

5 (1) in subsection (b) by striking “may” and in-  
6 serting “shall”; and

7 (2) in subsection (c) by striking “may” and in-  
8 serting “shall”.

9 **SEC. 4. NATIONAL PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE**  
10 **PREDISASTER MITIGATION ASSISTANCE.**

11 Section 203(i)(1) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster  
12 Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C.  
13 5133(i)(1) is amended—

14 (1) by striking “may” and inserting “shall”;  
15 and

16 (2) by striking “equal to” and inserting “that  
17 is not less than 3 percent and not more than”.

18 **SEC. 5. TRIBAL PROVISIONS.**

19 Section 203 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief  
20 and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5133) is  
21 amended—

22 (1) in subsection (b)—

23 (A) by inserting “and Indian Tribes” after  
24 “States and local governments”; and

25 (B) by inserting “or Indian Tribes” after  
26 “States or local governments”;

1           (2) in subsection (c), by inserting “or Indian  
2       Tribe” after “State or local government” each place  
3       it appears;

4           (3) in subsection (d)—

5               (A) by inserting “or Indian Tribes” after  
6       “local governments” each place it appears; and

7               (B) in paragraph (2)—

8                   (i) by inserting “or an Indian Tribe”  
9       after “a local government”; and

10               (ii) by adding at the end the fol-  
11       lowing:

12               “(C) INDIAN TRIBES.—An Indian Tribe  
13       shall have access to assistance under this sec-  
14       tion either through the President selecting the  
15       Indian Tribe directly, by a Governor or a State  
16       submitting a recommendation for the Indian  
17       Tribe, or through a Tribal-set aside of funds set  
18       by the President or based on the Governor or  
19       State recommendation.”;

20           (4) in subsection (e)—

21               (A) in paragraph (1)(A), by inserting “and  
22       Indian Tribes” after “States and local govern-  
23       ments”;

1 (B) in paragraph (2), by inserting “or In-  
2 dian Tribe” after “State or local government”  
3 each place it appears; and

4 (C) by adding at the end the following:

5 “(3) USES BY INDIAN TRIBES.—Technical and  
6 financial assistance provided under this section to an  
7 Indian Tribe shall be used for Direct Technical As-  
8 sistance to help the Indian Tribe improve resilience  
9 to natural hazards, build strong mitigation pro-  
10 grams, develop high-quality applications, and carry  
11 out innovative mitigation projects.”;

12 (5) by adding at the end the following:

13 “(m) INDIAN TRIBE DEFINED.—In this section, the  
14 term ‘Indian Tribe’ has the meaning given the term in  
15 section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education  
16 Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304).”.