

118TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 8728

To establish alternate procedures for lump sum payments for certain covered small disasters, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 13, 2024

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana (for himself and Mr. MOSKOWITZ) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

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## A BILL

To establish alternate procedures for lump sum payments for certain covered small disasters, 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 “State-Managed Dis-  
5 aster Relief Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. ALTERNATIVE PROCEDURES FOR COVERED SMALL**  
7 **DISASTERS.**

8 The Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emer-  
9 gency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.) is amended  
10 by adding at the end the following:

1 **“TITLE VIII—ALTERNATIVE PRO-**  
2 **CEDURES FOR COVERED**  
3 **SMALL DISASTERS**

4 **“SEC. 801. ALTERNATIVE PROCEDURES FOR COVERED**  
5 **SMALL DISASTERS.**

6 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Governor of a State or the  
7 governing body of an Indian tribal government for the  
8 area in which a covered small disaster occurs may request  
9 a lump sum payment of the estimated damages calculated  
10 under subsection (b) for such disaster in lieu of any assist-  
11 ance under the Public Assistance Program for such dis-  
12 aster.

13 “(b) CALCULATION.—A payment under subsection  
14 (a) shall be equal to the amount that is 80 percent of the  
15 estimated damage eligible under the Public Assistance  
16 Program for a covered small disaster in the area of juris-  
17 diction of the State or Indian tribal government requesting  
18 such payment.

19 “(c) LIMITATIONS.—

20 “(1) IN GENERAL.—A State or Indian tribal  
21 government receiving a payment under this section  
22 may not receive assistance under the Public Assist-  
23 ance Program with respect to the covered small dis-  
24 aster for which a payment was accepted under this  
25 section.

1           “(2) FINAL PAYMENT.—A payment under this  
2           section may not be increased or decreased based on  
3           actual costs calculated for a covered small disaster.

4           “(d) USE OF FUNDS.—A State or Indian tribal gov-  
5           ernment receiving a payment under this section may use  
6           such payment for recovery for the covered small disaster  
7           in any manner determined appropriate by the respective  
8           Governor or governing body of such State or Indian tribal  
9           government.

10          “(e) REPORT TO FEMA.—A State or governing body  
11          of an Indian tribal government shall submit to the Federal  
12          Emergency Management Agency a report of expenses for  
13          a covered small disaster in the area of jurisdiction of the  
14          respective State or Indian tribal government.

15          “(f) SAVINGS CLAUSE.—Nothing in this section shall  
16          be construed to affect any program in title IV or V that  
17          is not a Public Assistance Program.

18          “(g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

19                 “(1) COVERED SMALL DISASTER.—The term  
20                 ‘covered small disaster’ means a major disaster de-  
21                 clared under section 401 or an emergency declared  
22                 under section 501 with estimated damage eligible  
23                 under the Public Assistance Program of less than  
24                 \$10,000,000.

1           “(2) PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.—The term  
2           ‘Public Assistance Program’ means the programs  
3           under sections 403, 406, 407, and 502.”.

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