

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1708

To amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to ensure the continuity of medical care following a major disaster by making private for-profit medical facilities eligible for Federal disaster assistance.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 15, 2001

Mr. MCCONNELL (for himself and Ms. LANDRIEU) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works

A BILL

To amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to ensure the continuity of medical care following a major disaster by making private for-profit medical facilities eligible for Federal disaster assistance.

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 “Parity in Emergency
5 Preparedness and Response Act of 2001”.

1 **SEC. 2. ELIGIBILITY OF PRIVATE FOR-PROFIT MEDICAL FA-**
2 **CILITIES FOR FEDERAL DISASTER ASSIST-**
3 **ANCE.**

4 (a) **ELIGIBILITY OF PRIVATE FOR-PROFIT MEDICAL**
5 **FACILITIES FOR ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE TO PRIVATE**
6 **NONPROFIT FACILITIES.**—Section 102(9) of the Robert
7 T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act
8 (42 U.S.C. 5122(9)) is amended—

9 (1) by striking “and facilities” and inserting
10 “facilities”; and

11 (2) by inserting before the period at the end the
12 following: “, and private for-profit medical facilities
13 (including hospitals and long-term care facilities)”.

14 (b) **CLARIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY OF MEDICAL FA-**
15 **CILITIES FOR EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS ASSIST-**
16 **ANCE.**—

17 (1) **DEFINITION OF EMERGENCY PREPARED-**
18 **NESS.**—Section 602(a)(3)(A) of the Robert T. Staf-
19 ford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act
20 (42 U.S.C. 5195a(a)(3)(A)) is amended by inserting
21 “the preparation of private nonprofit and for-profit
22 medical facilities (including hospitals and long-term
23 care facilities) to withstand major disasters,” after
24 “control centers,”.

25 (2) **FUNCTIONS OF FEMA.**—Section 611(j)(1) of
26 the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emer-

1 agency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5196(j)(1)) is
2 amended in the first sentence by inserting before the
3 period at the end the following: “(including the prep-
4 aration of private nonprofit and for-profit medical
5 facilities (including hospitals and long-term care fa-
6 cilities) to withstand major disasters)”.

7 (c) DEFINITION OF LONG-TERM CARE FACILITY.—
8 Section 102 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and
9 Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5122) is amended
10 by adding at the end the following:

11 “(10) LONG-TERM CARE FACILITY.—‘Long-
12 term care facility’ means—

13 “(A) any skilled nursing facility (as de-
14 fined in section 1819(a) of the Social Security
15 Act (42 U.S.C. 1395i-3(a));

16 “(B) any nursing facility (as defined in
17 section 1919(a) of that Act (42 U.S.C.
18 1396r(a)); and

19 “(C) any other long-term care facility,
20 such as an intermediate care facility for the
21 mentally retarded.”.

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