

109<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 5547

To direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to establish a Gulf Coast Long-Term Recovery Office to administer amounts available to the Department for providing assistance to the residents of the Gulf Coast region for recovering from Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 7, 2006

Mr. JINDAL introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Homeland Security, 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

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## A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to establish a Gulf Coast Long-Term Recovery Office to administer amounts available to the Department for providing assistance to the residents of the Gulf Coast region for recovering from Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. GULF COAST LONG-TERM RECOVERY OFFICE.**

2 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of Homeland  
3 Security shall establish in the Department of Homeland  
4 Security a Gulf Coast Long-Term Recovery Office to ad-  
5 minister amounts available to the Department for pro-  
6 viding assistance to the residents of the Gulf Coast region  
7 for recovering from Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

8 (b) DIRECTOR.—The Office shall be headed by a Di-  
9 rector, who shall be appointed by the Secretary of Home-  
10 land Security.

11 (c) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The Director of the Gulf  
12 Coast Long-Term Recovery Office shall work with State,  
13 local, and tribal governments, the private sector, and non-  
14 governmental organizations, including faith-based and  
15 other community humanitarian relief entities, to provide  
16 assistance to residents of the Gulf Coast region for recov-  
17 ering from Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, including the fol-  
18 lowing:

19 (1) To assess the social and economic con-  
20 sequences in the areas affected by Hurricanes  
21 Katrina and Rita and coordinate Federal efforts to  
22 address long-term community recovery issues.

23 (2) To advise the Secretary of Homeland Secu-  
24 rity on the long-term community recovery implica-  
25 tions of response activities.

1           (3) To conduct comprehensive market disruption  
2           and loss analysis and develop a forward looking  
3           market-based comprehensive long-term recovery plan  
4           for the affected areas.

5           (4) To identify appropriate Federal programs  
6           and agencies to support the implementation of the  
7           long-term community recovery plan, to ensure co-  
8           ordination across appropriate Federal departments  
9           and agencies, and to identify any gaps in the avail-  
10          able resources.

11          (5) To avoid duplication of assistance, to co-  
12          ordinate, to the extent possible, program application  
13          processes and planning requirements in order to  
14          streamline assistance, and to identify and coordinate  
15          the resolution of policy and program issues.

16          (6) To determine responsibilities for recovery  
17          activities, to provide a method of maintaining con-  
18          tinuity in the delivery of assistance under programs  
19          administered by various Federal departments and  
20          agencies, and to oversee coordination with State,  
21          local, and tribal governments and other involved par-  
22          ties, to ensure follow-through of recovery and hazard  
23          mitigation efforts.

24          (7) To encourage implementation of mitigation  
25          measures during recovery.

1           (8) To carry out such other activities as deter-  
2           mined appropriate by the Secretary of Homeland Se-  
3           curity.

4           (d) TERMINATION.—The Gulf Coast Long-Term Re-  
5           covery Office established under subsection (a) shall termi-  
6           nate at the discretion of the Secretary.

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