

Calendar No. 951110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION**S. 2382****[Report No. 110-453]**

To require the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to quickly and fairly address the abundance of surplus manufactured housing units stored by the Federal Government around the country at taxpayer expense.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 16, 2007

Mr. PRYOR introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

SEPTEMBER 11, 2008

Reported by Mr. LIEBERMAN, with an amendment

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italic*]

A BILL

To require the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to quickly and fairly address the abundance of surplus manufactured housing units stored by the Federal Government around the country at taxpayer expense.

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. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “FEMA Accountability
3 Act of 2007”.

4 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

5 Congress finds that—

6 (1) more than 19,000 mobile homes and travel
7 trailers sit unused at the storage site in Hope, Ar-
8 kansas;

9 (2) the Federal Emergency Management Agen-
10 cy spends \$25,000 each month to store the unused
11 manufactured homes in Hope, Arkansas;

12 (3) the Federal Emergency Management Agen-
13 cy spends in excess of \$3,000,000 each year to store
14 unused manufactured homes at 15 storage sites
15 across the country;

16 (4) these manufactured housing units were pur-
17 chased to aid disaster victims during the 2005 hurri-
18 cane season;

19 (5) it is anticipated that the number of unused
20 mobile homes and trailers could continue to increase
21 as residents find permanent housing;

22 (6) many of these manufactured homes are now
23 severely damaged or may contain potentially harmful
24 levels of formaldehyde; and

1 (7) the Federal Emergency Management Agen-
 2 cy has had ample time to assess the need for on-
 3 hand manufactured housing.

4 **SEC. 3. STORAGE, SALE, TRANSFER, AND DISPOSAL OF**
 5 **HOUSING UNITS.**

6 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 3 months after the
 7 date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the
 8 Federal Emergency Management Agency (in this section
 9 referred to as the “Administrator”) shall complete an as-
 10 sessment of the number of manufactured housing units
 11 it finds necessary to stock to respond to disasters occur-
 12 ring after the date of enactment of this Act.

13 (b) **PLAN.**—

14 (1) **IN GENERAL.**—Except as provided in para-
 15 graph (2), not later than 6 months after the date of
 16 enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall estab-
 17 lish a well developed plan for permanently storing
 18 manufactured housing units necessary to stock, sell-
 19 ing or transferring usable surplus units, and dis-
 20 posing of unusable units.

21 (2) **EXCEPTION.**—

22 (A) **IN GENERAL.**—If the Administrator
 23 submits to Congress a written certification that
 24 the Administrator is unable to determine the
 25 safe level of exposure to formaldehyde for pur-

1 poses of travel trailers, the Administrator may
 2 exclude from the plan under paragraph (1) any
 3 travel trailer that the Administrator determines
 4 may contain formaldehyde.

5 (B) DURATION.—The authority to exclude
 6 travel trailers under this paragraph shall termi-
 7 nate on the date on which the Administrator of
 8 the Environmental Protection Agency promul-
 9 gates regulations regarding exposure levels for
 10 formaldehyde that are applicable to travel trail-
 11 ers.

12 (c) IMPLEMENTATION.—Not later than 9 months
 13 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator
 14 shall implement the plan described in subsection (b).

15 (d) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date
 16 of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall submit
 17 to Congress a report on the status of the distribution, sale,
 18 transfer, or disposal of unused manufactured housing
 19 units.

20 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; DEFINITIONS.**

21 (a) *SHORT TITLE.*—*This Act may be cited as the*
 22 *“FEMA Accountability Act of 2008”.*

23 (b) *DEFINITIONS.*—*In this Act—*

24 (1) *the term “Administrator” means the Admin-*
 25 *istrator of FEMA;*

1 (2) *the term “FEMA” means the Federal Emer-*
2 *gency Management Agency; and*

3 (3) *the term “major disaster” has the meaning*
4 *given that term in section 102 of the Robert T. Staf-*
5 *ford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act*
6 *(42 U.S.C. 5122).*

7 **SEC. 2. STORAGE, SALE, TRANSFER, AND DISPOSAL OF**
8 **HOUSING UNITS.**

9 (a) *IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 months after the*
10 *date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall—*

11 (1) *complete an assessment to determine the*
12 *number of temporary housing units purchased by*
13 *FEMA that FEMA needs to maintain in stock to re-*
14 *spond appropriately to major disasters occurring*
15 *after the date of enactment of this Act; and*

16 (2) *establish criteria for determining whether in-*
17 *dividual temporary housing units stored by FEMA*
18 *are in usable condition, which shall include appro-*
19 *priate criteria for formaldehyde testing and exposure.*

20 (b) *PLAN.—*

21 (1) *IN GENERAL.—Not later than 6 months after*
22 *the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator*
23 *shall establish a plan for—*

24 (A) *storing the number of temporary hous-*
25 *ing units that the Administrator has determined*

1 under subsection (a)(1) that FEMA needs to
2 maintain in stock;

3 (B) selling, transferring, or otherwise dis-
4 posing of the temporary housing units in the in-
5 ventory of FEMA that—

6 (i) are in excess of the number of tem-
7 porary housing units that the Adminis-
8 trator has determined under subsection
9 (a)(1) that FEMA needs to maintain in
10 stock; and

11 (ii) are in usable condition, based on
12 the criteria established under subsection
13 (a)(2); and

14 (C) disposing of the temporary housing
15 units in the inventory of FEMA that the Admin-
16 istrator determines are not in usable condition,
17 based on the criteria established under subsection
18 (a)(2).

19 (2) *APPLICABILITY OF DISPOSAL REQUIRE-*
20 *MENTS.—The plan established under paragraph (1)*
21 *shall be subject to the requirements of section*
22 *408(d)(2) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief*
23 *and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5174(d)(2))*
24 *and other applicable provisions of law.*

1 (c) *IMPLEMENTATION.*—Not later than 9 months after
2 the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall
3 implement the plan described in subsection (b).

4 (d) *REPORT.*—Not later than 1 year after the date of
5 enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall submit to
6 the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental
7 Affairs of the Senate and the appropriate committees of the
8 House of Representatives a report on the status of the dis-
9 tribution, sale, transfer, or other disposal of the unused tem-
10 porary housing units purchased by FEMA.

Calendar No. 951

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