

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1664

To amend section 5307 of title 49, United States Code, with respect to the treatment of communities as urbanized areas following a major disaster.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 27, 2017

Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Mr. KAINE) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

A BILL

To amend section 5307 of title 49, United States Code, with respect to the treatment of communities as urbanized areas following a major disaster.

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 “Relief for Recovering
5 Communities Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITION OF URBANIZED AREAS FOLLOWING A**
7 **MAJOR DISASTER.**

8 Section 5307 of title 49, United States Code, is
9 amended by adding at the end the following:

1 “(i) URBANIZED AREAS FOLLOWING A MAJOR DIS-
2 ASTER.—

3 “(1) DEFINED TERM.—In this section, the term
4 ‘major disaster’ has the meaning given such term in
5 section 102(2) of the Disaster Relief Act of 1974
6 (42 U.S.C. 5122(2)).

7 “(2) URBANIZED AREA MAJOR DISASTER POPU-
8 LATION CRITERIA.—Notwithstanding section 5302,
9 the Secretary shall treat an area as an ‘urbanized
10 area’ for purposes of this section until the second
11 decennial census conducted after a major disaster in
12 such area if—

13 “(A) the area was defined and designated
14 as an ‘urbanized area’ by the Secretary of Com-
15 merce in the decennial census immediately pre-
16 ceding such major disaster, effective with the
17 2000 decennial census; and

18 “(B) the population of the area fell below
19 50,000 as a result of such major disaster.

20 “(3) POPULATION CALCULATION.—An area
21 treated as an ‘urbanized area’ under this subsection
22 shall be assigned the population and square miles of
23 the urban cluster designated by the Secretary of
24 Commerce in the most recent decennial census.

1 “(4) SAVINGS PROVISION.—Nothing in this sub-
2 section may be construed to affect apportionments
3 made under this chapter before the date of the en-
4 actment of this subsection.”.

