

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5709

To require the Comptroller General to evaluate and issue a report on the structural and economic impacts of climate resiliency at the Federal Emergency Management Agency, including recommendations on how to improve the building codes and standards that the Agency uses to prepare for climate change and address resiliency in housing, public buildings, and infrastructure such as roads and bridges.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 29, 2020

Mr. NEGUSE (for himself and Mr. ROONEY of Florida) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To require the Comptroller General to evaluate and issue a report on the structural and economic impacts of climate resiliency at the Federal Emergency Management Agency, including recommendations on how to improve the building codes and standards that the Agency uses to prepare for climate change and address resiliency in housing, public buildings, and infrastructure such as roads and bridges.

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 “Climate Resilient Com-
3 munities Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. CLIMATE RESILIENCY REPORT BY GAO.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the
6 date of enactment of this Act and every 5 years thereafter,
7 the Comptroller General shall evaluate and issue a report
8 to Congress on the structural and economic impacts of cli-
9 mate resiliency at the Federal Emergency Management
10 Agency (FEMA), including recommendations on how to
11 improve the Agency’s use of building codes and standards
12 to prepare for climate change and address resiliency in
13 housing, public buildings, and infrastructure such as roads
14 and bridges.

15 (b) REPORT ISSUES.—The report required under
16 subsection (a) shall include the following:

17 (1) Economic analysis of the benefits to consid-
18 ering and prioritizing resiliency when building new
19 infrastructure.

20 (2) Number of structures (buildings, roads,
21 bridges) that were not destroyed because of pre-dis-
22 aster mitigation planning, and the resultant cost
23 savings.

24 (3) Economic analysis of the benefits to consid-
25 ering and prioritizing resiliency when rebuilding
26 after natural disasters.

1 (4) Recommendations to improve the building
2 codes and standards that FEMA uses to consider
3 climate impacts and risks, including—

4 (A) flooding;

5 (B) wildfires;

6 (C) hurricanes;

7 (D) heat waves;

8 (E) droughts;

9 (F) rises in sea level; and

10 (G) extreme weather.

11 (5) Assessment of the building codes and stand-
12 ards that are currently being used by FEMA to
13 make resiliency decisions, including recommenda-
14 tions for updates to such codes and standards.

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