

Union Calendar No. 546

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4347

[Report No. 116–662, Part I]

To enhance the Federal Government’s planning and preparation for extreme weather and the Federal Government’s dissemination of best practices to respond to extreme weather, thereby increasing resilience, improving regional coordination, and mitigating the financial risk to the Federal Government from such extreme weather, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 17, 2019

Mr. CARTWRIGHT (for himself, Mr. WEBSTER of Florida, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. ROUDA, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. LAMALFA, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. ROUZER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Reform, 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

DECEMBER 17, 2020

Additional sponsors: Mr. HICE of Georgia, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. PETERS, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. KIND, Mr. COLE, Mrs. AXNE, Ms. SPANBERGER, and Mr. NEGUSE

DECEMBER 17, 2020

Reported from the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

DECEMBER 17, 2020

Referred to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology for a period ending not later than December 17, 2020, for consideration of such provisions of the bill as fall within the jurisdiction of that committee pursuant to clause 1(p) of rule X

DECEMBER 17, 2020

Committees on Oversight and Reform and Science, Space, and Technology dis-

charged; committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

A BILL

To enhance the Federal Government's planning and preparation for extreme weather and the Federal Government's dissemination of best practices to respond to extreme weather, thereby increasing resilience, improving regional coordination, and mitigating the financial risk to the Federal Government from such extreme weather, 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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
 5 “Preparedness and Risk Management for Extreme Weath-
 6 er Patterns Assuring Resilience and Effectiveness Act of
 7 2019” or the “PREPARE Act of 2019”.

8 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for
 9 this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
- Sec. 2. Interagency Council on Extreme Weather Resilience, Preparedness, and
Risk Identification and Management.
- Sec. 3. Agency planning for extreme weather-related risks.
- Sec. 4. Website.
- Sec. 5. Providing adequate resources and support.
- Sec. 6. Inventory.
- Sec. 7. Meetings.
- Sec. 8. Progress updates.
- Sec. 9. Definitions.
- Sec. 10. Requirement to include agency extreme weather plan in agency per-
formance plan.

10 **SEC. 2. INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON EXTREME WEATHER**
 11 **RESILIENCE, PREPAREDNESS, AND RISK**
 12 **IDENTIFICATION AND MANAGEMENT.**

13 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is hereby established a
 14 council to be known as the “Interagency Council on Ex-
 15 treme Weather Resilience, Preparedness, and Risk Identi-
 16 fication and Management”.

17 (b) MEMBERSHIP.—The Interagency Council shall be
 18 composed of the following:

1 (1) Senior Federal officials, to be appointed by
2 the President, including representation from the fol-
3 lowing:

4 (A) The Council on Environmental Qual-
5 ity.

6 (B) The Office of Science and Technology
7 Policy.

8 (C) The National Security Council.

9 (D) The Office of Management and Budg-
10 et.

11 (E) The Department of Transportation.

12 (F) The Environmental Protection Agency.

13 (G) The National Institute of Standards
14 and Technology.

15 (H) The National Oceanic and Atmos-
16 pheric Administration.

17 (I) The Department of Energy.

18 (J) The Department of Homeland Secu-
19 rity.

20 (K) The Federal Emergency Management
21 Agency.

22 (L) The Department of Defense.

23 (M) The National Aeronautics and Space
24 Administration.

25 (N) The Department of Agriculture.

1 (O) The Department of Housing and
2 Urban Development.

3 (P) The Department of Justice.

4 (2) Senior Federal officials, to be appointed by
5 the President, who have relevant policy expertise and
6 policy responsibilities, including in the following
7 areas:

8 (A) Economic policy and risk analysis.

9 (B) Foreign affairs.

10 (C) Defense and intelligence.

11 (D) Homeland security.

12 (E) Energy.

13 (F) Environmental protection.

14 (G) Natural and cultural resources.

15 (H) Coasts, oceans, rivers, wetlands, and
16 floodplains.

17 (I) Agriculture.

18 (J) Health and social services.

19 (K) Transportation and infrastructure.

20 (L) Housing.

21 (M) Education.

22 (N) Extreme weather data analysis or me-
23 teorological science.

24 (O) Social science.

25 (P) Strategic planning.

1 (Q) Urban and land use planning.

2 (R) Infrastructure systems.

3 (S) Civil rights.

4 (T) Other areas the President determines
5 appropriate.

6 (c) CO-CHAIRPERSONS.—

7 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Interagency Council
8 shall be co-chaired by the Administrator of the Fed-
9 eral Emergency Management Agency and the Dep-
10 uty Director of the Office of Management and Budg-
11 et. The President may appoint one or more addi-
12 tional members as co-chairs, as appropriate.

13 (2) DUTIES.—The co-chairpersons shall—

14 (A) oversee the Interagency Council’s re-
15 sponse to the Government Accountability Of-
16 fice’s recommendations under subsection (f)(5);

17 (B) use the evaluation framework and per-
18 formance metrics developed pursuant to sub-
19 section (f)(6) to evaluate agency progress in
20 meeting the goals and implementing the prior-
21 ities described in subsection (f)(1)(A); and

22 (C) work to ensure that sufficient re-
23 sources are available for agencies to—

- 1 (i) meet the goals and implement the
2 priorities described in subsection (f)(1)(A);
3 and
4 (ii) implement the recommendations
5 developed under subsection (f)(2).

6 (d) ADMINISTRATION.—The co-chairpersons of the
7 Interagency Council (or staff designated by the co-chair-
8 persons) shall provide administrative support and addi-
9 tional resources, as appropriate, to the Interagency Coun-
10 cil to the extent permitted by law and within existing ap-
11 propriations. The Interagency Council co-chairpersons
12 shall determine the amount of funding and personnel nec-
13 essary for the Interagency Council to carry out its duties
14 and the amount of funding and personnel each agency rep-
15 resented on the Interagency Council should contribute in
16 order for the Interagency Council to carry out such duties.
17 Agencies shall, upon the request of the co-chairpersons of
18 the Interagency Council, make available personnel, admin-
19 istrative support services, and information to the Inter-
20 agency Council.

21 (e) STRUCTURE.—

22 (1) STEERING COMMITTEE.—The co-chair-
23 persons of the Interagency Council shall designate a
24 subset of members of the Interagency Council to
25 serve on a steering committee. Such steering com-

1 mittee shall assist the Interagency Council in deter-
2 mining its priorities and its strategic direction.

3 (2) WORKING GROUPS.—The co-chairpersons of
4 the Interagency Council and its steering committee
5 may establish working groups as needed.

6 (f) DUTIES OF THE INTERAGENCY COUNCIL.—

7 (1) GOALS AND PRIORITIES.—

8 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Interagency Coun-
9 cil shall establish Governmentwide goals and
10 priorities for addressing extreme weather resil-
11 ience, preparedness, and risk identification and
12 management, taking into account regional, eco-
13 nomic, cultural, and ecological variations, and
14 the disparate impact of extreme weather. In es-
15 tablishing such goals and priorities, the Inter-
16 agency Council shall consider the National Oil
17 and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contin-
18 gency Plan, agency continuity of operations
19 plans, the National Preparedness Goal, the Na-
20 tional Preparedness Report, the National Global
21 Change Research Plan, plans for the develop-
22 ment and implementation of the Building Resil-
23 ient Infrastructure and Communities program,
24 the Mitigation Framework Leadership Group’s
25 National Mitigation Investment Strategy (if

1 available), State and local mitigation plans, and
2 all relevant findings described in the Govern-
3 ment Accountability Office’s High-Risk Series.

4 (B) COORDINATION.—In executing the du-
5 ties pursuant to this subsection, the Inter-
6 agency Council shall coordinate with other enti-
7 ties in the Federal Government focused on ex-
8 treme weather mitigation and recovery (includ-
9 ing the Mitigation Framework Leadership
10 Group, the Recovery Support Functions Lead-
11 ers Group, and the Emergency Support Func-
12 tions Leaders Group), to facilitate communica-
13 tion and collaboration among Federal activities.

14 (C) INCORPORATION INTO AGENCY ACTIVI-
15 TIES.—In carrying out subparagraph (A), the
16 Interagency Council shall, in order to ensure
17 that information relating to extreme weather re-
18 silience, preparedness, and risk identification
19 and management is incorporated into everyday
20 agency activities—

21 (i) work with agencies to assist such
22 agencies in considering the goals and prior-
23 ities described in subparagraph (A) in
24 agency strategic, programmatic, and budg-
25 et planning;

1 (ii) identify details to be included in
2 agency extreme weather plans; and

3 (iii) work to identify and communicate
4 localized extreme weather and natural haz-
5 ard risk to the extent possible using the
6 best available information regarding risk,
7 and encourage the development of thor-
8 ough, updated maps, models, and tools to
9 measure and evaluate risk.

10 (2) PRIORITY INTERAGENCY FEDERAL AC-
11 TIONS.—The Interagency Council shall develop, rec-
12 ommend, coordinate, and track implementation of
13 priority interagency Federal Government actions re-
14 lated to addressing extreme weather resilience, pre-
15 paredness, and risk identification and management.

16 (3) SUPPORT REGIONAL, STATE, AND LOCAL
17 ACTIONS.—The Interagency Council shall support
18 regional, State, and local action to assess extreme
19 weather-related vulnerabilities and cost effectively in-
20 crease extreme weather resilience, preparedness, and
21 risk identification and management of communities,
22 critical economic sectors, natural and built infra-
23 structure, and natural resources, including by—

24 (A) conducting inventories under section 6;

25 (B) convening meetings under section 7;

1 (C) providing guidance to agencies to
2 produce tools and products that enhance ex-
3 treme weather resilience planning, risk knowl-
4 edge, and actions for use in all levels of govern-
5 ment, including guidance on cost-effectiveness
6 as it pertains to extreme weather and on how
7 to prioritize funding in order to produce such
8 tools and products; and

9 (D) reviewing State and local mitigation
10 plans.

11 (4) METEOROLOGICAL AND EXTREME WEATHER
12 SCIENCE.—The Interagency Council shall facilitate
13 the integration of meteorological and extreme weath-
14 er science, in addition to other scientific disciplines
15 such as physical, natural, and social science that the
16 Council determines to be appropriate, in the policies,
17 risk evaluation and communication, and planning of
18 agencies and the private sector, including by—

19 (A) promoting the development of innova-
20 tive, actionable, and accessible Federal extreme
21 weather resilience, preparedness, and risk iden-
22 tification and management-related information,
23 data, tools, and examples of successful actions
24 at appropriate scales for decisionmakers; and

1 (B) providing such information, data,
2 tools, and examples to the agency or agencies
3 designated under section 4 to include on the
4 website established and maintained or des-
5 ignated pursuant to such section.

6 (5) HIGH-RISK REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS.—
7 The Interagency Council shall assess the specific
8 recommendations relating to extreme weather de-
9 scribed in the Government Accountability Office’s
10 High-Risk Series, identify the feasibility of revising
11 Federal programs to implement such recommenda-
12 tions, and develop a plan to address such rec-
13 ommendations when feasible that does not duplicate
14 the National Preparedness Goal.

15 (6) FRAMEWORK AND PERFORMANCE
16 METRICS.—The Interagency Council shall use exist-
17 ing and emerging science to develop or adopt—

18 (A) a framework for evaluating the
19 progress and success of extreme weather resil-
20 ience, preparedness, and risk identification and
21 management-related efforts that is complemen-
22 tary to and not duplicative of any local or na-
23 tional indicator system developed as part of the
24 National Preparedness Goal; and

1 (B) performance metrics that allow track-
2 ing of the actions taken and progress made to-
3 ward meeting the goals and implementing the
4 priorities described in paragraph (1)(A).

5 (7) RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE CEQ, OMB,
6 AND DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY.—The
7 Interagency Council shall provide to the Council on
8 Environmental Quality, the Office of Management
9 and Budget, and the Department of Homeland Se-
10 curity recommendations on how agencies should—

11 (A) develop or update agency extreme
12 weather plans;

13 (B) remove barriers to and facilitate State
14 and local actions to address extreme weather
15 resilience, preparedness, and risk identification
16 and management, in agency regulations, guid-
17 ance, and policies; and

18 (C) avoid duplication among Federal ac-
19 tivities to the extent practicable.

20 (8) PUBLIC INPUT AND COMMENT.—The Inter-
21 agency Council shall solicit and incorporate public
22 input and comment as appropriate into the decisions
23 of the Interagency Council.

1 (9) INVENTORY AND MEETINGS.—The Inter-
2 agency Council shall conduct inventories under sec-
3 tion 6 and convene meetings under section 7.

4 (10) DEFINITION OF EXTREME WEATHER.—
5 The Interagency Council shall consider and may up-
6 date, not less frequently than every two years, in
7 consultation with appropriate scientific bodies, the
8 definition of “extreme weather” and what other
9 weather events (in addition to those described in sec-
10 tion 9(3)) qualify as extreme weather for purposes
11 of this Act. The definition of “extreme weather”
12 shall be published and updated, as necessary, on the
13 website of the Council and in the Federal Register.

14 (11) OTHER DUTIES.—The Interagency Council
15 shall carry out any other duties related to the pur-
16 poses of this Act that the co-chairpersons of the
17 Interagency Council determine appropriate.

18 (12) PUBLIC INFORMATION.—The Interagency
19 Council shall—

20 (A) make information available online—

21 (i) for tracking implementation of
22 agency extreme weather plans and Govern-
23 mentwide goals and priorities described in
24 paragraph (1)(A);

1 (ii) on recommendations relating to
2 extreme weather described in the Govern-
3 ment Accountability Office’s High-Risk Se-
4 ries; and

5 (iii) on the results of the Council’s ef-
6 forts to identify nationwide and localized
7 risks (including updated mapping efforts);
8 and

9 (B) make such High-Risk Series and the
10 reports submitted under paragraph (13) avail-
11 able as the Council determines appropriate.

12 (13) ANNUAL REPORT.—Not later than one
13 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, and
14 annually thereafter (concurrently with the United
15 States Global Change Research Program Annual Re-
16 port and the National Preparedness Report), the
17 Interagency Council shall submit to Congress, and
18 make available to the United States Global Change
19 Research Program and the Federal Emergency Man-
20 agement Agency, a report that—

21 (A) describes how the goals and priorities
22 described in paragraph (1)(A) are being met
23 and implemented using—

24 (i) the performance metrics developed
25 under paragraph (6)(B); and

1 (ii) information on—

2 (I) agency expenditures, broken
3 down by program activity level if prac-
4 ticable, that are directly related to ad-
5 dressing extreme weather resilience,
6 preparedness, and risk identification
7 and management, including extreme
8 weather resilience, preparedness, and
9 risk identification and management of
10 Federal facilities; and

11 (II) the effectiveness of such ex-
12 penditures, along with associated fi-
13 nancial impacts and community, in-
14 frastructure, and environmental bene-
15 fits, to the extent such data are avail-
16 able;

17 (B) provides recommendations to enhance
18 the effectiveness of such implementation and
19 sets benchmarks to meet;

20 (C) describes the progress of the regional
21 coordination efforts described in sections 6, 7,
22 and 8; and

23 (D) includes a summary of public com-
24 ments solicited under paragraph (8) and any

1 action the Interagency Council took to respond
2 to such comments.

3 (g) CONSULTATION.—In carrying out paragraphs (2)
4 through (12) of subsection (f), the Interagency Council
5 shall consult with Federal agencies, State and local gov-
6 ernments, academic and research institutions, and the pri-
7 vate and nonprofit sectors.

8 (h) OMB GUIDANCE.—The Director of the Office of
9 Management and Budget, taking into consideration the
10 recommendations provided by the Interagency Council
11 under subsection (f)(7), shall issue guidance to agencies
12 on—

13 (1) developing agency extreme weather plans,
14 which shall incorporate existing agency reports,
15 where appropriate, to prevent duplication and reduce
16 overlap;

17 (2) developing agency regulations, guidance,
18 and policies to remove barriers to and facilitate
19 State and local actions to address extreme weather
20 resilience, preparedness, and risk identification and
21 management; and

22 (3) assessing and managing extreme weather-
23 related risks under OMB Circular A–123 “Manage-
24 ment’s Responsibility for Enterprise Risk Manage-
25 ment and Internal Control”.

1 **SEC. 3. AGENCY PLANNING FOR EXTREME WEATHER-RE-**
2 **LATED RISKS.**

3 (a) AGENCY EXTREME WEATHER RESILIENCE, PRE-
4 PAREDNESS, AND RISK IDENTIFICATION AND MANAGE-
5 MENT PLANS.—

6 (1) AGENCY SUBMISSION.—Not later than 1
7 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, and
8 every 2 years thereafter, the head of each agency, in
9 coordination with the Administrator of the Federal
10 Emergency Management Agency to avoid duplication
11 with the National Planning Frameworks, shall sub-
12 mit to the Director of the Office of Management and
13 Budget and to the Interagency Council a com-
14 prehensive plan that integrates consideration of ex-
15 treme weather into such agency’s operations and
16 overall mission objectives (hereinafter referred to as
17 an “agency extreme weather plan”).

18 (2) HEARING.—Not later than 1 year after the
19 date of the enactment of this Act, and every 2 years
20 thereafter, the Director of the Office of Management
21 and Budget shall convene an interagency budget
22 crosscut and policy hearing to review and integrate
23 all the agency extreme weather plans and to ensure
24 that such extreme weather plans and the activities of
25 agencies align with the goals and priorities estab-
26 lished under section 2(f)(1)(A).

1 (3) OMB SUBMISSION.—The Director of the
2 Office of Management and Budget, as part of the
3 annual budget process, shall consolidate and submit
4 to Congress all agency extreme weather plans.

5 (b) INCLUSIONS.—Each agency extreme weather plan
6 shall include—

7 (1) identification and assessment of extreme
8 weather-related impacts on, and risks to—

9 (A) the agency’s ability to accomplish its
10 missions, operations, and programs over time
11 periods to be designated by the Interagency
12 Council; and

13 (B) State and local entities;

14 (2) identification and assessment of barriers
15 posed and improvements that could be made to Fed-
16 eral programs the agency administers to facilitate
17 State and local actions to address extreme weather
18 resilience, preparedness, and risk identification and
19 management efforts;

20 (3) a description of programs, policies, and
21 plans the agency has already put in place, as well as
22 additional actions the agency will take, to manage
23 extreme weather risks in the near term and build re-
24 silience in the short and long term;

1 (4) a description of how the agency will con-
2 sider the need to improve extreme weather resilience,
3 preparedness, and risk identification and manage-
4 ment, including the costs and benefits of such im-
5 provement, with respect to agency suppliers, supply
6 chain, real property investments, and capital equip-
7 ment purchases, including by updating agency poli-
8 cies for leasing, building upgrades, relocation of ex-
9 isting facilities and equipment, and construction of
10 new facilities;

11 (5) a description of how the agency will support
12 any ongoing or future public-private partnership to
13 improve extreme weather resilience, preparedness,
14 and risk identification and management, including
15 the cost and benefits of technology and methodology
16 improvements, hardening, or rapid restoration;

17 (6) a description of how the agency will con-
18 tribute to coordinated interagency efforts to support
19 extreme weather resilience, preparedness, and risk
20 identification and management at all levels of gov-
21 ernment, including collaborative work across agen-
22 cies' regional offices and hubs, and through coordi-
23 nated development of information, data, and tools,
24 consistent with sections 6, 7, and 8; and

1 (7) any other details identified by the Inter-
2 agency Council under section 2(f)(1)(C)(ii).

3 **SEC. 4. WEBSITE.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Interagency Council shall
5 designate an agency or agencies to establish and maintain,
6 or designate a website that provides timely, actionable,
7 and accessible information, data, and tools on current and
8 future risks related to extreme weather, preparedness, re-
9 silience, and risk identification and management, to sup-
10 port Federal, regional, State, local, private sector, and
11 other decisionmakers.

12 (b) INTERAGENCY PROGRESS.—The website de-
13 scribed under subsection (a), shall identify interagency
14 progress, and propose the next interagency steps, towards
15 responding to threats posed by extreme weather.

16 (c) BEST PRACTICES.—The website described under
17 subsection (a) shall provide best practices and examples
18 from Federal, regional, State, and local decisionmakers in
19 the public and private sectors about how to use extreme
20 weather-related information in planning and decision-
21 making.

22 (d) INTERAGENCY COUNCIL INFORMATION AND
23 TOOLS.—The website described under subsection (a) shall
24 include the information, data, tools, and examples pro-

1 vided by the Interagency Council pursuant to section
2 2(f)(4).

3 (e) BEST AVAILABLE METEOROLOGICAL SCIENCE.—
4 The website described under subsection (a) shall identify
5 best available meteorological science relating to extreme
6 weather resilience, preparedness, and risk identification
7 and management.

8 (f) PUBLIC OUTREACH AND EDUCATION.—The
9 Interagency Council shall designate one or more agencies
10 to conduct outreach and educational activities to inform
11 the public and regional, State, and local decisionmakers
12 about the tools and information available on the website
13 described under subsection (a).

14 **SEC. 5. PROVIDING ADEQUATE RESOURCES AND SUPPORT.**

15 The Director of the Office of Management and Budg-
16 et shall ensure that each agency provides adequate re-
17 sources to the Interagency Council, including administra-
18 tive services and personnel support, as appropriate—

19 (1) for the website described under section 4;
20 and

21 (2) to otherwise carry out this Act.

22 **SEC. 6. INVENTORY.**

23 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the
24 date of the enactment of this Act, and every 2 years there-
25 after, the Interagency Council, or a working group of such

1 Interagency Council established by the co-chairpersons
2 thereof, shall conduct and publish an inventory of all re-
3 gional offices, centers, and programs of agencies that are
4 assisting with extreme weather resilience, preparedness,
5 and risk identification and management efforts at the
6 State or local level, including—

7 (1) the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Ad-
8 ministration’s regional programs;

9 (2) the Department of the Interior’s Fish and
10 Wildlife Service Landscape Conservation Coopera-
11 tives;

12 (3) the United States Geological Survey’s Cli-
13 mate Science Centers;

14 (4) the Department of Agriculture’s Climate
15 Hubs;

16 (5) the regional offices of—

17 (A) the Environmental Protection Agency;

18 (B) the Federal Emergency Management
19 Agency;

20 (C) the Department of Transportation;
21 and

22 (D) the Forest Service;

23 (6) the division offices of the Army Corps of
24 Engineers; and

1 (7) such other offices, centers, and programs or
2 other agency efforts as determined appropriate by
3 the Interagency Council.

4 (b) ASSISTANCE DESCRIBED.—An inventory con-
5 ducted and published under subsection (a) shall include
6 a description of the assistance each agency office, center,
7 or program is providing to assist with extreme weather
8 resilience, preparedness, and risk identification and man-
9 agement efforts at the State or local level.

10 **SEC. 7. MEETINGS.**

11 Not later than 6 months after the publication of each
12 inventory under section 6, the Interagency Council shall
13 convene a meeting of representatives of the offices, cen-
14 ters, and programs included in such inventory and invite
15 other local and regional stakeholders to participate and
16 develop plans to coordinate the efforts of such offices, cen-
17 ters, and programs and facilitate efficient services to
18 stakeholders. At such meetings, such representatives
19 shall—

20 (1) share information regarding their office,
21 center, or program’s extreme weather resilience, pre-
22 paredness, and risk identification and management
23 efforts;

24 (2) identify opportunities for collaboration and
25 coordination of research agendas, extreme weather

1 assessment activities, vulnerability assessments, data
2 collection and analysis, and planning and imple-
3 menting extreme weather resilience, preparedness,
4 and risk identification and management projects;

5 (3) identify extreme weather resilience, pre-
6 paredness, and risk identification and management
7 information needs, research gaps, and decision sup-
8 port needs that are not met by any of the offices,
9 centers, or programs included in the inventory under
10 section 6 and make available such identification for
11 purposes of information to be submitted to the
12 Interagency Council under section 7;

13 (4) identify common and complementary goals
14 for extreme weather resilience, preparedness, and
15 risk identification and management within each re-
16 gion to be prioritized for the coming year and be-
17 yond;

18 (5) identify barriers to regional extreme weath-
19 er resilience, preparedness, and risk identification
20 and management planning and implementation that
21 can be overcome or minimized through Federal ac-
22 tion and specific suggestions for improvement;

23 (6) evaluate progress and jointly develop a
24 strategy for realizing extreme weather resilience,
25 preparedness, and risk identification and manage-

1 ment-related goals, including clearly identified re-
2 sponsibilities by each collaborating regional office,
3 center, or program; and

4 (7) share experiences and best practices in
5 stakeholder engagement and communication, deci-
6 sion support, and science-practice interactions that
7 support the realization of identified extreme weather
8 resilience, preparedness, and risk identification and
9 management goals.

10 **SEC. 8. PROGRESS UPDATES.**

11 Not later than 90 days after each meeting under sec-
12 tion 7, each agency that participates in such meeting shall
13 submit to the Interagency Council, and make available to
14 the United States Global Change Research Program and
15 the Federal Emergency Management Agency, information
16 describing progress in regional coordination and collabora-
17 tion in aligning Federal resilience, preparedness, and risk
18 identification and management efforts at the State and
19 local level, and the benefits of such regional coordination
20 and collaboration.

21 **SEC. 9. DEFINITIONS.**

22 In this Act:

23 (1) AGENCY.—The term “agency” has the
24 meaning given the term “Executive agency” under

1 section 105 of title 5, but does not include the Gov-
2 ernment Accountability Office.

3 (2) AGENCY EXTREME WEATHER PLAN.—The
4 term “agency extreme weather plan” means a plan
5 required under section 3(a).

6 (3) EXTREME WEATHER.—The term “extreme
7 weather” includes observed or anticipated severe and
8 unseasonable atmospheric conditions, including
9 drought, wildfire, heavy precipitation, wave, high
10 water, snowstorm, landslide, mudslide, hurricanes,
11 tornadoes and other windstorms (including
12 derechos), extreme heat, extreme cold, sustained
13 temperatures or precipitation that deviate from his-
14 torical averages, and any other weather event that
15 the Interagency Council determines qualifies as ex-
16 treme weather pursuant to section 2(f)(10).

17 (4) INTERAGENCY COUNCIL.—The term “Inter-
18 agency Council” means the Interagency Council on
19 Extreme Weather Resilience, Preparedness, and
20 Risk Identification and Management established
21 under section 2(a).

22 (5) MITIGATION PLAN.—The term “mitigation
23 plan” means the mitigation plan required under sec-
24 tion 322 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief
25 and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5165).

1 (6) NATIONAL GLOBAL CHANGE RESEARCH
2 PLAN.—The term “National Global Change Re-
3 search Plan” means the National Global Change Re-
4 search Plan developed under section 104 of the
5 Global Change Research Act of 1990 (15 U.S.C.
6 2934), or any revision thereof.

7 (7) NATIONAL OIL AND HAZARDOUS SUB-
8 STANCES POLLUTION CONTINGENCY PLAN.—The
9 term “National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pol-
10 lution Contingency Plan” means the National Oil
11 and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency
12 Plan described under part 300 of title 40, Code of
13 Federal Regulations, or any revision thereof.

14 (8) NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS GOAL.—The
15 term “National Preparedness Goal” means the na-
16 tional preparedness goal developed under section 643
17 of the Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform
18 Act of 2006 (6 U.S.C. 743).

19 (9) NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS REPORT.—The
20 term “National Preparedness Report” means the re-
21 port required by section 652(a) of the Post-Katrina
22 Emergency Management Reform Act of 2006 (6
23 U.S.C. 752(a); Public Law 109–295).

24 (10) PREPAREDNESS.—The term “prepared-
25 ness” means actions taken to plan, organize, equip,

1 train, and exercise to build, apply, and sustain the
2 capabilities necessary to prevent, protect against,
3 ameliorate the effects of, respond to, and recover
4 from extreme weather related damages to life,
5 health, property, livelihoods, ecosystems, and na-
6 tional security.

7 (11) RESILIENCE.—The term “resilience”
8 means the ability to anticipate, prepare for, and
9 adapt to changing conditions and withstand, respond
10 to, and recover rapidly from disruptions.

11 (12) SENIOR OFFICIAL.—The term “senior offi-
12 cial” means a Deputy Secretary (or an equivalent of-
13 ficer) of an agency.

14 (13) STATE.—The term “State” means each of
15 the several States, the District of Columbia, each
16 commonwealth, territory, or possession of the United
17 States, and each federally recognized Indian Tribe.

18 (14) UNITED STATES GLOBAL CHANGE RE-
19 SEARCH PROGRAM.—The term “United States Glob-
20 al Change Research Program” means the United
21 States Global Change Research Program established
22 under section 103 of the Global Change Research
23 Act of 1990 (15 U.S.C. 2933).

24 (15) UNITED STATES GLOBAL CHANGE RE-
25 SEARCH PROGRAM ANNUAL REPORT.—The term

1 “United States Global Change Research Program
2 Annual Report” means the report required by sec-
3 tion 102(e)(7) of the Global Change Research Act of
4 1990 (15 U.S.C. 2932(e)(7)).

5 **SEC. 10. REQUIREMENT TO INCLUDE AGENCY EXTREME**
6 **WEATHER PLAN IN AGENCY PERFORMANCE**
7 **PLAN.**

8 A description of the most recent agency extreme
9 weather plan, as required under section 3, shall be in-
10 cluded in the performance plan of an agency (as defined
11 in section 9) required pursuant to section 1115(b) of title
12 31, United States Code.

Union Calendar No. 546

116TH CONGRESS
2D Session

H. R. 4347

[Report No. 116-662, Part I]

A BILL

To enhance the Federal Government's planning and preparation for extreme weather and the Federal Government's dissemination of best practices to respond to extreme weather, thereby increasing resilience, improving regional coordination, and mitigating the financial risk to the Federal Government from such extreme weather, and for other purposes.

DECEMBER 17, 2020

Reported from the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

DECEMBER 17, 2020

Referred to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology for a period ending not later than December 17, 2020, for consideration of such provisions of the bill as fall within the jurisdiction of that committee pursuant to clause 1(p) of rule X

DECEMBER 17, 2020

Committees on Oversight and Reform and Science, Space, and Technology discharged; committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed