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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. _____

To establish an emergency preparedness grant program for higher education institutions, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To establish an emergency preparedness grant program for higher education institutions, 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.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Emergency Prepared-
5 ness in Higher Education Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION EMERGENCY**
7 **PREPAREDNESS GRANT PROGRAM.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the
9 date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of FEMA

1 shall establish a grant program to create or expand pro-
2 grams at higher education institutions that foster, pro-
3 mote, and increase programs, initiatives, and opportuni-
4 ties for higher education institutions and emergency man-
5 agement and preparedness among higher education insti-
6 tutions.

7 (b) APPLICATIONS.—A higher education institution
8 seeking a grant under this section shall submit to the Ad-
9 ministrator an application that contains a description of—

10 (1) the need for and proposed use of grant
11 funds to promote emergency management and pre-
12 paredness among students, administrators, and fac-
13 ulty at such higher education institution;

14 (2) how the programs, initiatives, or opportuni-
15 ties created or expanded with the grant funds will
16 provide support to students, administrators, and fac-
17 ulty at such higher education institution who seek
18 support for established emergency management con-
19 cerns or challenges; and

20 (3) how the higher education institution will
21 create or expand programs, initiatives, or opportuni-
22 ties that—

23 (A) increase higher education institutions
24 recovery efforts to disasters or emergencies;

1 (B) expand access to construction, replace-
2 ment, renovation, and operations costs resulting
3 from the disaster or emergency;

4 (C) assist enrolled students displaced from
5 disasters and emergencies which operations
6 were disrupted by a disaster or emergency; and

7 (D) assist for activities replacing instruc-
8 tional materials and equipment, paying educa-
9 tor and staff incentives, modernizing, ren-
10 ovating, or repairing school buildings.

11 (c) SELECTION.—In making grants under this sec-
12 tion, the Administrator shall evaluate applications from
13 among the same type of higher education institution.

14 (d) AMOUNT OF GRANT.—A grant awarded under
15 this section shall be not less than \$250,000 and not great-
16 er than \$5,000,000.

17 (e) USE OF GRANT FUNDS.—A higher education in-
18 stitution that receives a grant under the Program shall
19 use grant amounts to support the creation or expansion
20 of program initiatives, or opportunities that offer emer-
21 gency preparedness resources that support students en-
22 rolled at the higher education institution, such as—

23 (1) personnel costs associated with expanding
24 emergency preparedness, including the responsibil-
25 ities of emergency planning and operations, coordi-

1 nation with local and institutional law enforcement
2 and threat assessment teams, or equivalent organi-
3 zations;

4 (2) creating or updating institutional com-
5 prehensive emergency management plans, all-haz-
6 ards emergency plans, or similar planning docu-
7 ments;

8 (3) infrastructure and facilities construction or
9 improvements for institutional emergency operations
10 centers or areas of refuge for sheltering-in-place;
11 and

12 (4) equipment and technology to increase inter-
13 agency coordination for improved situational aware-
14 ness, resource requests, and integration with institu-
15 tional information systems.

16 (f) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 3 years
17 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Adminis-
18 trator of FEMA shall submit to Congress a report on the
19 experience with, and effectiveness of, grants awarded
20 under this section in meeting the objectives of this section.

21 (g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
22 authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator of
23 FEMA \$100,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2027
24 through 2031 to carry out this section.

25 (h) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

1 (1) FEMA.—The term “FEMA” means the
2 Federal Emergency Management Agency.

3 (2) HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION.—The
4 term “higher education institution” means any of
5 the following types of institutions:

6 (A) A historically Black college or univer-
7 sity.

8 (B) A Hispanic-serving institution, as that
9 term is defined in section 502(a) of the Higher
10 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1101a(a)).

11 (C) A Tribal College or University, as that
12 term is defined in section 316(b) of the Higher
13 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1059c(b)).

14 (D) An Alaska Native-serving institution,
15 as that term is defined in section 317(b) of the
16 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
17 1059d(b)).

18 (E) A Native Hawaiian-serving institution,
19 as that term is defined in section 317(b) of the
20 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
21 1059d(b)).

22 (F) A Predominantly Black Institution, as
23 that term is defined in section 318(b) of the
24 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
25 1059e(b)).

1 (G) A Native American-serving, nontribal
2 institution, as that term is defined in section
3 319(b) of the Higher Education Act of 1965
4 (20 U.S.C. 1059f(b)).

5 (H) An Asian-American and Native Amer-
6 ican Pacific Islander-serving institution, as that
7 term is defined in section 320(b) of the Higher
8 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1059g(b)).

9 (I) An institution of higher education, as
10 such term is defined in section 101(a) of the
11 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.
12 1001(a)).

13 (J) A vocational-technical college or uni-
14 versity.

15 (K) A career college or university.