

HR 6147

FEMA Act

Congress: 110 (2007–2009, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Emergency Management

Introduced: May 22, 2008

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Emergency Communications, Preparedness, and Response.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Emergency Communications, Preparedness, and Response. (Jun 2, 2008)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/110th-congress/house-bill/6147>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Cole, Tom [R-OK-4]

Party: Republican • State: OK • Chamber: House

Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Homeland Security Committee	House	Referred to	Jun 2, 2008
Homeland Security Committee	House	Referred to	Jun 2, 2008
Transportation and Infrastructure Committee	House	Referred to	May 23, 2008

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Emergency Management

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
110 S 2214	Related bill	Oct 22, 2007: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. (text of measure as introduced: CR S13195-13200)
110 S 1427	Related bill	May 17, 2007: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. (text of measure as introduced: CR S6304-6308)

Federal Emergency Management Advancement Act of 2008 or the FEMA Act - Reestablishes the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) as an independent establishment in the executive branch. Requires FEMA to be headed by a Director appointed by the President, with the advice and consent of the Senate. Designates the Director as the principal advisor to the President, the Homeland Security Council, and the Secretary of Homeland Security for all matters relating to emergency management in the United States. Directs the President to designate the Director to serve as a Cabinet member in the event of specified disasters.

Establishes as FEMA's primary mission to reduce the loss of life and property and protect the nation from all hazards, including natural and man-made disasters, through a risk-based, comprehensive emergency management system of preparedness, protection, response, recovery, and mitigation.

Prescribes the Director's responsibilities. Provides for 10 regional offices. Requires each Regional Administrator to: (1) establish a Regional Advisory Council; and (2) oversee multi-agency strike teams. Establishes a National Operations Center.

Requires the Director to: (1) establish Area Offices in appropriate Regional Offices; (2) defer to substantiating documentation submitted by states in determining the duration of a major disaster and in establishing the eligibility period for assistance; (3) establish and implement the voluntary private sector preparedness accreditation and certification program; (4) ensure that the National Response Plan provides for a clear chain of command to lead and coordinate the federal response to disasters; and (5) enter into a memorandum of understanding with specified individuals to collaborate on developing standards for deployment capabilities.

Transfers specified functions and personnel to FEMA. Authorizes the Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to make necessary determinations regarding such functions and incidental dispositions of personnel, assets, and property.

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## **Actions Timeline**

- **Jun 2, 2008:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Management, Investigations, and Oversight.
- **Jun 2, 2008:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Emergency Communications, Preparedness, and Response.
- **May 23, 2008:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings and Emergency Management.
- **May 22, 2008:** Introduced in House
- **May 22, 2008:** Referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Homeland Security, 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.