

## HR 4243

Individual Assistance Improvement Act of 2015

**Congress:** 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Emergency Management

**Introduced:** Dec 11, 2015

**Current Status:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings and Emergency Management.

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings and Emergency Management. (Dec 14, 2015)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/4243>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Kilmer, Derek [D-WA-6]

**Party:** Democratic • **State:** WA • **Chamber:** House

### Cosponsors (3 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Newhouse, Dan [R-WA-4]	R · WA		Dec 11, 2015
Rep. Reichert, David G. [R-WA-8]	R · WA		Dec 11, 2015
Rep. McMorris Rodgers, Cathy [R-WA-5]	R · WA		Dec 18, 2015

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Transportation and Infrastructure Committee	House	Referred to	Dec 14, 2015

### Subjects & Policy Tags

**Policy Area:**

Emergency Management

### Related Bills

*No related bills are listed.*

## Individual Assistance Improvement Act of 2015

This bill requires the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to submit to Congress an annual report on recommendations for improving federal assistance for small states and rural areas under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act and additional resources required for such improvements.

In measuring the severity, magnitude, and impact of a disaster and evaluating the need for assistance to individuals under that Act, FEMA shall not apply, with respect to a rural area, the factor relating to concentration of damages.

FEMA shall provide the governor or the chief executive of an Indian tribal government with documentation related to a major disaster declaration decision within 25 days after such individual requests that documentation, including: (1) an analysis of the factors that it considered in making the decision, and (2) its rationale.

The Government Accountability Office shall conduct a comprehensive review of: (1) FEMA's damage assessment processes for major disaster declarations, and (2) the teams that carry out such processes.

FEMA shall conduct a study, biennially, to: (1) compare the average amount of individual assistance provided per person for each major disaster declared during the five most recently completed fiscal years, the average damages realized per individual for each disaster, and the average damages realized per individual for each event where a request for a major disaster declaration was denied during the five most recently completed fiscal years; and (2) collect the data needed to update a table relating to the average amount of individual assistance by state.

## Actions Timeline

---

- **Dec 14, 2015:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings and Emergency Management.
- **Dec 11, 2015:** Introduced in House
- **Dec 11, 2015:** Referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.