

HR 797

Disaster Assistance Recoupment Fairness Act of 2015

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Emergency Management

Introduced: Feb 5, 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. (Feb 6, 2015)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/797>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Meeks, Gregory W. [D-NY-5]

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

Cosponsors (19 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. King, Peter T. [R-NY-2]	R · NY		Feb 5, 2015
Rep. Nadler, Jerrold [D-NY-10]	D · NY		Feb 25, 2015
Rep. Pallone, Frank, Jr. [D-NJ-6]	D · NJ		Feb 27, 2015
Rep. Rangel, Charles B. [D-NY-13]	D · NY		Feb 27, 2015
Rep. Serrano, Jose E. [D-NY-15]	D · NY		Feb 27, 2015
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		Mar 26, 2015
Rep. Brown, Corrine [D-FL-5]	D · FL		Mar 26, 2015
Rep. Conyers, John, Jr. [D-MI-13]	D · MI		Mar 26, 2015
Rep. Engel, Eliot L. [D-NY-16]	D · NY		Mar 26, 2015
Rep. Jeffries, Hakeem S. [D-NY-8]	D · NY		Mar 26, 2015
Rep. Meng, Grace [D-NY-6]	D · NY		Mar 26, 2015
Rep. Payne, Donald M., Jr. [D-NJ-10]	D · NJ		Mar 26, 2015
Rep. Polis, Jared [D-CO-2]	D · CO		Mar 26, 2015
Rep. Rice, Kathleen M. [D-NY-4]	D · NY		Mar 26, 2015
Rep. Sewell, Terri A. [D-AL-7]	D · AL		Mar 26, 2015
Rep. Watson Coleman, Bonnie [D-NJ-12]	D · NJ		Mar 26, 2015
Rep. Maloney, Carolyn B. [D-NY-12]	D · NY		Apr 15, 2015
Rep. Wilson, Frederica S. [D-FL-24]	D · FL		Apr 15, 2015
Rep. Larson, John B. [D-CT-1]	D · CT		Dec 8, 2016

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Transportation and Infrastructure Committee	House	Referred to	Feb 6, 2015

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Emergency Management

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 HR 801	Related bill	Feb 6, 2015: Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings and Emergency Management.
114 S 406	Related bill	Feb 5, 2015: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

Summary (as of Feb 5, 2015)

Disaster Assistance Recoupment Fairness Act of 2015

Authorizes the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to waive a debt owed to the United States related to federal assistance provided under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to individuals and households in relation to a major disaster declared by the President on or after January 1, 2011, if such assistance was distributed based on an error by FEMA, there was no fault on behalf of the debtor, and the collection of the debt would be against equity and good conscience, unless the debt that involves fraud, the presentation of a false claim, or misrepresentation by the debtor or any party having an interest in the claim.

Requires FEMA, in determining whether to waive such a debt, to presume that the debtor should be required to make at least a partial payment if the adjusted gross income of the debtor's household for the last taxable year exceeds \$100,000.

Directs the Inspector General of the Department of Homeland Security: (1) to report, every six months, on the cost-effectiveness of FEMA's efforts to recoup improper payments of such assistance; (2) to monitor the distribution of such assistance to determine the amount distributed based on a FEMA error; and (3) upon determining that such amount exceeds 4% of the total amount distributed, to notify FEMA and publish the determination in the Federal Register.

Cancels FEMA's authority to waive debt with respect to any major disaster declared by the President after the date of such a determination.

Actions Timeline

- **Feb 6, 2015:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings and Emergency Management.
- **Feb 5, 2015:** Introduced in House
- **Feb 5, 2015:** Referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.