

## HR 1423

### National Flood Insurance Program Reauthorization and Improvement Act of 2017

**Congress:** 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Finance and Financial Sector

**Introduced:** Mar 8, 2017

**Current Status:** Referred to the House Committee on Financial Services.

**Latest Action:** Referred to the House Committee on Financial Services. (Mar 8, 2017)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/1423>

## Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Velazquez, Nydia M. [D-NY-7]

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

## Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

## Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Financial Services Committee	House	Referred To	Mar 8, 2017

## Subjects & Policy Tags

### Policy Area:

Finance and Financial Sector

## Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
115 S 3628	Related bill	Dec 31, 2018: Pursuant to the provisions of H. Con. Res. 148, enrollment corrections on S. 3628 have been made.
115 S 3703	Related bill	Dec 4, 2018: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.
115 HR 7187	Related bill	Dec 1, 2018: Became Public Law No: 115-281.
115 S 3670	Related bill	Nov 28, 2018: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.
115 HR 6922	Related bill	Sep 26, 2018: Referred to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce.

## **National Flood Insurance Program Reauthorization and Improvement Act of 2017**

This bill amends the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 to extend the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) through FY2027.

Every policy issued under NFIP must include documents describing the type of loss covered, a summary of the costs of the policy, and an explanation of the policy's parameters.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is directed to establish a program for "Write Your Own" companies (a company that writes and services federal standard flood insurance policies in its own name) to investigate preexisting structural conditions in properties. Participation in this program shall be voluntary.

In the event a policyholder prevails in a lawsuit regarding claims against an insurance company or FEMA, the court may award litigation costs. Costs of an administrative appeal shall be awarded to a prevailing claimant.

Engineers providing services in connection with NFIP must be certified by FEMA and be professionally licensed as an engineer.

FEMA must establish a publicly searchable online registry of companies and individuals providing services related to NFIP.

The bill establishes criminal and civil penalties for committing fraud or making false statements in connection with NFIP.

The bill establishes whistleblower protections for individuals performing tasks related to NFIP, including federal employees, Write Your Own employees, and third-party administrators and service providers.

It is unlawful for Write Your Own companies to violate the independence of a provider of engineering services in connection with flood insurance coverage.

The Government Accountability Office must report on: (1) the effects of global warming on NFIP solvency, and (2) Hurricane Sandy claims handled by Write Your Own companies.

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### **Actions Timeline**

- **Mar 8, 2017:** Introduced in House
- **Mar 8, 2017:** Referred to the House Committee on Financial Services.