

HR 654

Pacific Northwest Earthquake Preparedness Act of 2017

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Emergency Management

Introduced: Jan 24, 2017

Current Status: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governm

Latest Action: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. (Mar 28, 2017)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/654>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. DeFazio, Peter A. [D-OR-4]

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

Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee	Senate	Referred To	Mar 28, 2017
Transportation and Infrastructure Committee	House	Discharged from	Feb 28, 2017

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Emergency Management

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

(This measure has not been amended since it was reported to the House on March 9, 2017. The summary of that version is repeated here.)

Pacific Northwest Earthquake Preparedness Act of 2017

(Sec. 2) This bill requires the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to: (1) develop a plan for the purchase and installation of an earthquake early warning system for the Cascadia Subduction Zone, and (2) identify the funds necessary for its implementation. Such zone is the landward-dipping fault that is approximately 684 miles long, separates the Juan de Fuca and North America plates, and stretches along the western coast of the United States from Cape Mendocino, California, to Northern Vancouver Island, British Columbia.

(Sec. 3) The President shall establish an Earthquake and Tsunami Task Force for the purpose of developing a comprehensive strategy and recommendations on how the nation should prepare and plan for, mitigate against, respond to, recover from, and more successfully adapt to an earthquake, tsunami, or combined earthquake and tsunami event in such zone. Such recommendations shall include recommendations on: (1) administrative or legislative changes and funding required to implement the strategy, and (2) the order of priority for implementation of the strategy.

The Task Force shall enter into an agreement with the National Academies for developing recommendations for a federal research strategy to advance scientific understanding of a zone earthquake and resulting tsunami preparedness.

(Sec. 4) FEMA shall be responsible for the nation's efforts to reduce the loss of life and property, and to protect the nation, from an earthquake, tsunami, or combined earthquake and tsunami event by developing the ability to prepare and plan for, mitigate against, respond to, recover from, and more successfully adapt to such an event.

(Sec. 5) The bill amends the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to authorize recipients to use hazard mitigation assistance to conduct activities to help reduce the risk of future damage, hardship, loss, or suffering in any area affected by earthquake hazards, including making improvements to:

- regional seismic networks in support of building a capability for earthquake early warning;
- geodetic networks in support of building a capability for earthquake early warning; and
- seismometers, Global Positioning System receivers, and associated infrastructure in support of building a capability for earthquake early warning.

Actions Timeline

- **Mar 28, 2017:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.
- **Mar 27, 2017:** Mr. Barletta moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.
- **Mar 27, 2017:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H2450-2452)
- **Mar 27, 2017:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 654.
- **Mar 27, 2017:** At the conclusion of debate, the Yeas and Nays were demanded and ordered. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 8, rule XX, the Chair announced that further proceedings on the motion would be postponed.
- **Mar 27, 2017:** Considered as unfinished business. (consideration: CR H2454-2455)
- **Mar 27, 2017:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 395 - 11 (Roll no. 196).(text: CR H2450-2451)
- **Mar 27, 2017:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 395 - 11 (Roll no. 196). (text: CR H2450-2451)
- **Mar 27, 2017:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Mar 9, 2017:** Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H. Rept. 115-30.
- **Mar 9, 2017:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 12.
- **Feb 28, 2017:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Feb 28, 2017:** Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by Voice Vote.
- **Feb 28, 2017:** Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings and Emergency Management Discharged.
- **Jan 25, 2017:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings and Emergency Management.
- **Jan 24, 2017:** Introduced in House
- **Jan 24, 2017:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR E91)
- **Jan 24, 2017:** Referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.