

S 709

Disaster Assistance Improvement Act of 2017

**Congress:** 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Emergency Management

**Introduced:** Mar 23, 2017

**Current Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. (Mar 23, 2017)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/709>

Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Nelson, Bill [D-FL]

**Party:** Democratic • **State:** FL • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Jones, Doug [D-AL]	D · AL		Jun 11, 2018

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee	Senate	Referred To	Mar 23, 2017

Subjects & Policy Tags

**Policy Area:**

Emergency Management

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
<a href="#">115 S 1641</a>	Related bill	<b>Jul 27, 2017:</b> Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.
<a href="#">115 HR 1678</a>	Related bill	<b>May 4, 2017:</b> Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

## **Disaster Assistance Improvement Act of 2017**

This bill amends the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to prohibit the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) from taking administrative action to recover any payment made to a state or local government for disaster or emergency assistance initiated in any forum (with exceptions for fraud) after three years following the transmission of the final expenditure report for project completion, as certified by the grantee (currently, after three years following the transmission of the final expenditure report for the disaster or emergency).

The bill makes the same change with respect to the deadline: (1) for any dispute arising under such Act for which there shall be a presumption that accounting records were maintained that adequately identify the source and application of funds provided for financially assisted activities, and (2) by which the inability of the government to produce source documentation supporting expenditure reports shall not constitute evidence to rebut such presumption.

With respect to a payment for disaster or emergency assistance provided to a state or local government on or after January 1, 2004, FEMA may not take administrative action to recover such payment after the date of enactment of this bill if the action is prohibited under such Act as amended by this bill.

## **Actions Timeline**

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- **Mar 23, 2017:** Introduced in Senate
- **Mar 23, 2017:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.