

HR 8266

FEMA Assistance Relief Act of 2020

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Emergency Management

Introduced: Sep 16, 2020

Current Status: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. (Nov 18, 2020)

Latest Action: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. (Nov 18, 2020)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/8266>

Sponsor

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

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

Cosponsors (43 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		Sep 16, 2020
Rep. Blumenauer, Earl [D-OR-3]	D · OR		Sep 16, 2020
Rep. Bonamici, Suzanne [D-OR-1]	D · OR		Sep 16, 2020
Rep. Brown, Anthony G. [D-MD-4]	D · MD		Sep 16, 2020
Rep. Carbajal, Salud O. [D-CA-24]	D · CA		Sep 16, 2020
Rep. Carson, Andre [D-IN-7]	D · IN		Sep 16, 2020
Rep. Cohen, Steve [D-TN-9]	D · TN		Sep 16, 2020
Rep. Costa, Jim [D-CA-16]	D · CA		Sep 16, 2020
Rep. DeSaulnier, Mark [D-CA-11]	D · CA		Sep 16, 2020
Rep. Eshoo, Anna G. [D-CA-18]	D · CA		Sep 16, 2020
Rep. Finkenauer, Abby [D-IA-1]	D · IA		Sep 16, 2020
Rep. Garamendi, John [D-CA-3]	D · CA		Sep 16, 2020
Rep. Huffman, Jared [D-CA-2]	D · CA		Sep 16, 2020
Rep. Johnson, Eddie Bernice [D-TX-30]	D · TX		Sep 16, 2020
Rep. Lipinski, Daniel [D-IL-3]	D · IL		Sep 16, 2020
Rep. Lofgren, Zoe [D-CA-19]	D · CA		Sep 16, 2020
Rep. Lowenthal, Alan S. [D-CA-47]	D · CA		Sep 16, 2020
Rep. Lowey, Nita M. [D-NY-17]	D · NY		Sep 16, 2020
Rep. Lynch, Stephen F. [D-MA-8]	D · MA		Sep 16, 2020
Rep. Maloney, Sean Patrick [D-NY-18]	D · NY		Sep 16, 2020
Rep. Mucarsel-Powell, Debbie [D-FL-26]	D · FL		Sep 16, 2020
Rep. Napolitano, Grace F. [D-CA-32]	D · CA		Sep 16, 2020
Rep. Panetta, Jimmy [D-CA-20]	D · CA		Sep 16, 2020
Rep. Pappas, Chris [D-NH-1]	D · NH		Sep 16, 2020
Rep. Payne, Donald M., Jr. [D-NJ-10]	D · NJ		Sep 16, 2020
Rep. Rouda, Harley [D-CA-48]	D · CA		Sep 16, 2020
Rep. Roybal-Allard, Lucille [D-CA-40]	D · CA		Sep 16, 2020
Rep. Sánchez, Linda T. [D-CA-38]	D · CA		Sep 16, 2020
Rep. Schrader, Kurt [D-OR-5]	D · OR		Sep 16, 2020
Rep. Sires, Albio [D-NJ-8]	D · NJ		Sep 16, 2020
Rep. Stanton, Greg [D-AZ-9]	D · AZ		Sep 16, 2020
Rep. Thompson, Mike [D-CA-5]	D · CA		Sep 16, 2020
Rep. Titus, Dina [D-NV-1]	D · NV		Sep 16, 2020
Rep. Walden, Greg [R-OR-2]	R · OR		Sep 16, 2020
Del. Plaskett, Stacey E. [D-VI-At Large]	D · VI		Sep 17, 2020
Rep. Brownley, Julia [D-CA-26]	D · CA		Sep 17, 2020
Rep. Larsen, Rick [D-WA-2]	D · WA		Sep 17, 2020
Rep. Malinowski, Tom [D-NJ-7]	D · NJ		Sep 17, 2020
Rep. Khanna, Ro [D-CA-17]	D · CA		Sep 21, 2020
Rep. Swalwell, Eric [D-CA-15]	D · CA		Sep 21, 2020
Rep. Craig, Angie [D-MN-2]	D · MN		Sep 23, 2020

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Chu, Judy [D-CA-27]	D · CA		Sep 30, 2020
Rep. Byrne, Bradley [R-AL-1]	R · AL		Oct 30, 2020

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee	Senate	Referred To	Nov 18, 2020
Transportation and Infrastructure Committee	House	Discharged from	Sep 30, 2020

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Emergency Management

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 S 4800	Related bill	Nov 9, 2020: Read the second time. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 581.
116 HR 8406	Related bill	Sep 29, 2020: Referred to the Committee on Appropriations, and in addition to the Committees on the Budget, and Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.
116 S 4627	Identical bill	Sep 17, 2020: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.
116 HR 6669	Related bill	May 4, 2020: Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management.

FEMA Assistance Relief Act of 2020

This bill modifies the federal cost share of certain emergency assistance relating to COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019).

Specifically, the bill provides for (1) a 100% federal cost share of assistance provided under the emergency declaration issued by the President on March 13, 2020, relating to COVID-19 and any subsequent major disaster declaration that supersedes it; and (2) at least a 90% federal cost share of assistance provided for any emergency or major disaster declared by the President from January 1-December 31, 2020. These provisions shall apply to funds appropriated on or after this bill's enactment.

With respect to the emergency declaration issued on March 13, 2020, the President may provide assistance for activities, costs, and purchases of states, Indian tribal governments, or local governments, including, among other things

- backfill costs for first responders and other essential employees who are ill or quarantined;
- increased operating costs for essential government services due to such emergency;
- personal protective equipment and other critical supplies and services for first responders; and
- costs of procuring and distributing food to individuals affected by the pandemic.

The bill (1) directs the President to provide financial assistance to meet disaster-related funeral expenses (subject to the availability of appropriations), and (2) authorizes specified assistance in advance.

FEMA must enter into an agreement with the National Academy of Sciences to convene a committee of experts to study the use of certain assistance to respond to an emergency that does not cause physical damages.

The bill extends by one year federal disaster assistance to individuals and households.

Actions Timeline

- **Nov 18, 2020:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.
- **Nov 17, 2020:** Mr. DeFazio moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.
- **Nov 17, 2020:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H5847-5849)
- **Nov 17, 2020:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 8266.
- **Nov 17, 2020:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote.(text: CR H5847-5848)
- **Nov 17, 2020:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote. (text: CR H5847-5848)
- **Nov 17, 2020:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Nov 16, 2020:** Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H. Rept. 116-580.
- **Nov 16, 2020:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 478.
- **Sep 30, 2020:** Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management Discharged.
- **Sep 30, 2020:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Sep 30, 2020:** Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by Voice Vote.
- **Sep 17, 2020:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management.
- **Sep 16, 2020:** Introduced in House
- **Sep 16, 2020:** Referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.