

S 4521

KESSLER Act

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Emergency Management

Introduced: Jul 13, 2022

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. (Jul 13, 2022)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/4521>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Cornyn, John [R-TX]

Party: Republican • **State:** TX • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Padilla, Alex [D-CA]	D · CA		Jul 13, 2022

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jul 13, 2022

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Emergency Management

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 S 4488	Related bill	Dec 13, 2022: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 638.
117 S 4888	Related bill	Sep 20, 2022: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.
117 HR 8574	Related bill	Jul 29, 2022: Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management.

Keeping Everyone Safe and Securing Lives by Emergency Readiness Act or the KESSLER Act

This bill directs the President to develop a national strategy to ensure the health and safety of the U.S. civilian population in case of catastrophic incidents.

Specifically, the President must develop and submit to Congress a strategy to

- provide for the basic needs of the civilian population that is impacted by catastrophic incidents in the United States;
- coordinate response efforts with state and local governments, the private sector, and nonprofit relief organizations;
- promote personal and local readiness and non-reliance on government relief during periods of heightened tension or after catastrophic incidents; and
- develop international partnerships with allied nations for the provision of relief services and goods.

The President must issue a plan to implement and operationalize the strategy.

The Department of Homeland Security shall lead a national exercise to test and enhance the operationalization of the implementation plan.

The President must provide recommendations for (1) actions that should be taken to prepare the United States to implement the strategy, increase readiness, and address preparedness gaps; and (2) additional authorities that should be considered to more effectively implement the strategy.

Actions Timeline

- **Jul 13, 2022:** Introduced in Senate
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