

S 4888

KESSLER Act

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Emergency Management

Introduced: Sep 20, 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. (Sep 20, 2022)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/4888>

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		Sep 20, 2022

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee	Senate	Referred To	Sep 20, 2022

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Emergency Management

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 S 4521	Related bill	Jul 13, 2022: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

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

This bill directs the President to supplement disaster response plans to account for catastrophic incidents.

Specifically, the President must supplement each Federal Interagency Operational Plan to include an annex containing a strategy to ensure the health, safety, and general welfare of the civilian population affected by catastrophic incidents by

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

The strategy must include specified elements, including a description of actions the President will take to ensure the basic needs of the U.S. civilian population in a catastrophic incident are met.

The Department of Homeland Security shall lead an exercise, as part of a national exercise program, to test and enhance the operationalization of the strategy.

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

- **Sep 20, 2022:** Introduced in Senate
- **Sep 20, 2022:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.