

## HR 5794

### FEMA Operations Continuity Act of 2025

**Congress:** 119 (2025–2027, Current)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Emergency Management

**Introduced:** Oct 21, 2025

**Current Status:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management.

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management. (Dec 1, 2025)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/house-bill/5794>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Bell, Wesley [D-MO-1]

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

### Cosponsors (3 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Fields, Cleo [D-LA-6]	D · LA		Oct 21, 2025
Rep. Moulton, Seth [D-MA-6]	D · MA		Oct 21, 2025
Rep. Figures, Shomari [D-AL-2]	D · AL		Oct 28, 2025

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Transportation and Infrastructure Committee	House	Referred To	Oct 21, 2025
Transportation and Infrastructure Committee	House	Referred to	Dec 1, 2025

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Emergency Management

### Related Bills

*No related bills are listed.*

## **FEMA Operations Continuity Act of 2025**

This bill authorizes the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to continue certain disaster relief, recovery, and mitigation operations during a lapse in appropriations (i.e., government shutdown).

Specifically, the bill authorizes FEMA to

- continue all disaster relief, recovery, and mitigation operations funded through the Disaster Relief Fund (DRF);
- obligate and disburse DRF balances for all existing and future disaster declarations, including individual and public assistance under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act; and
- maintain personnel and contract support necessary to ensure uninterrupted processing of claims and payments.

The bill also (1) requires all unobligated balances in the DRF to remain available to FEMA for expenditure during a lapse in appropriations; and (2) prohibits the funds from being withheld, sequestered, or reprogrammed during a lapse in appropriations, except as necessary to comply with the Antideficiency Act.

Finally, the bill specifies that, for the purposes of the Antideficiency Act, the FEMA operations authorized by this bill must be considered essential to protect human life and property and are exempt from government shutdown restrictions.





- **Oct 21, 2025:** Introduced in House
- **Oct 21, 2025:** Referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.
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