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(Original Signature of Member)

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. _____

To amend the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 to ensure community accountability for areas repetitively damaged by floods, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. ROYCE (for himself and Mr. BLUMENAUER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 to ensure community accountability for areas repetitively damaged by floods, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Repeatedly Flooded
5 Communities Preparation Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. COMMUNITY ACCOUNTABILITY FOR REPETITIVELY**
2 **FLOODED AREAS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1361 of the National
4 Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4102) is amended
5 by adding at the end the following new subsection:

6 “(e) COMMUNITY ACCOUNTABILITY FOR REPET-
7 ITIVELY DAMAGED AREAS.—

8 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall,
9 by regulation, require any covered community (as
10 such term is defined in paragraph (3))—

11 “(A) to analyze and map areas within the
12 community where properties described in para-
13 graph (3)(B) or flood-damaged facilities are lo-
14 cated to determine areas repeatedly damaged by
15 floods and to assess the continuing risks to
16 such areas; and

17 “(B) to develop a community-specific plan
18 for addressing any continuing flood risks, sub-
19 mit such plan to the Administrator and update
20 such plan at appropriate intervals, and make
21 such plan, plan updates, and reports on
22 progress in reducing flood risk available to the
23 public, subject to section 552a of title 5, United
24 States Code.

25 “(2) SANCTIONS.—The Administrator shall, by
26 regulation, provide appropriate sanctions for covered

1 communities that fail to comply with the require-
2 ments under this subsection or to make sufficient
3 progress in reducing the flood risks to areas in the
4 community that are repeatedly damaged by floods.

5 “(3) COVERED COMMUNITY.—For purposes of
6 this subsection, the term ‘covered community’ means
7 a community—

8 “(A) that is participating, pursuant to sec-
9 tion 1315, in the national flood insurance pro-
10 gram; and

11 “(B) within which are located—

12 “(i) 50 or more repetitive loss struc-
13 tures (as such term is defined in para-
14 graph (4));

15 “(ii) 5 or more severe repetitive loss
16 structures (as such term is defined in sec-
17 tion 1366(h)) for which mitigation activi-
18 ties meeting the standards for approval
19 under section 1366(c)(2)(A) have not been
20 conducted; or

21 “(iii) a public facility or a private
22 nonprofit facility (as such terms are as de-
23 fined in section 102 of the Robert T. Staf-
24 ford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assist-
25 ance Act (42 U.S.C. 5122)), that has re-

1 ceived assistance for repair, restoration, re-
2 construction, or replacement under section
3 406 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Re-
4 lief and Emergency Assistance Act (42
5 U.S.C. 5172) in connection with more than
6 one flooding event in the most recent 10-
7 year period.

8 “(4) REPETITIVE-LOSS STRUCTURE.—For pur-
9 poses of this subsection, the term ‘repetitive-loss
10 structure’ means a structure insured under a con-
11 tract for flood insurance made available under this
12 title that has had at least 2 flood losses for which
13 claims were paid under such coverage of more than
14 \$1,000 each in any 10-year period beginning after
15 1978.

16 “(5) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—Not later than
17 the expiration of the 6-year period beginning upon
18 the date of the enactment of this subsection, and not
19 less than every 2 years thereafter, the Administrator
20 shall submit a report to the Congress regarding the
21 progress in implementing plans developed pursuant
22 to paragraph (1)(B).”.

23 (b) REGULATIONS.—The Administrator of the Fed-
24 eral Emergency Management Agency shall issue regula-
25 tions necessary to carry out subsection (e) of section 1361

1 of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, as added
2 by the amendment made by subsection (a) of this section,
3 not later than the expiration of the 2-year period that be-
4 gins on the date of the enactment of this Act.