

111<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 6481

To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish the Office of Disability Integration and Coordination within the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 2, 2010

Ms. RICHARDSON (for herself and Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Homeland Security, 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

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## A BILL

To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish the Office of Disability Integration and Coordination within the Federal Emergency Management Agency, 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 “Disability Integration  
5 and Coordination Improvement Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. OFFICE OF DISABILITY INTEGRATION AND COORDI-**  
2 **NATION.**

3 Section 513 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002  
4 (6 U.S.C. 321b) is amended—

5 (1) in subsection (b), by striking “and” after  
6 the semicolon at the end of paragraph (1), by redesi-  
7 gnating paragraph (11) as paragraph (12), and by  
8 inserting after paragraph (10) the following new  
9 paragraph:

10 “(11) serving as the Director of the Office of  
11 Disability Integration and Coordination established  
12 under subsection (c); and”; and

13 (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-  
14 section:

15 “(c) OFFICE OF DISABILITY INTEGRATION AND CO-  
16 ORDINATION.—

17 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall es-  
18 tablish within the Agency the Office of Disability In-  
19 tegration and Coordination (in this subsection re-  
20 ferred to as the ‘Office’).

21 “(2) MISSION.—The Administrator shall, in  
22 consultation with the National Council on Disability,  
23 State, local, and tribal governments, private sector  
24 entities, and nongovernmental organizations, includ-  
25 ing faith-based and other community humanitarian  
26 relief entities, use the Office to implement strategies

1 and activities in support of the responsibilities of the  
2 Disability Coordinator under this section and as as-  
3 signed by other provisions of law or by the Adminis-  
4 trator.

5 “(3) STAFFING.—The Disability Coordinator—

6 “(A) subject to subparagraph (B), shall  
7 maintain staffing levels of the Office that are  
8 commensurate with the current and projected  
9 workload;

10 “(B) shall maintain not less than 10 full-  
11 time, permanent personnel of the headquarters  
12 office of the Agency who are properly trained to  
13 implement the Office’s mission, and who shall  
14 be assigned to the Regional Offices as nec-  
15 essary; and

16 “(C) shall periodically evaluate the staffing  
17 levels of the headquarters office of the Agency.

18 “(4) PERFORMANCE MEASURES.—The Adminis-  
19 trator, in coordination with the Disability Coordi-  
20 nator and in consultation with the National Council  
21 on Disability, State, local, and tribal governments,  
22 private sector entities, and nongovernmental organi-  
23 zations, including faith-based and other community  
24 humanitarian relief entities, shall establish perform-  
25 ance measures for the Office that are specific, meas-

1       urable, achievable, and relevant, including but not  
2       limited to—

3               “(A) ensuring the timely development, up-  
4               date, integration, and dissemination of informa-  
5               tion, including policy guidance, training mate-  
6               rials, and other planning tools for State, local,  
7               and tribal government officials and other appro-  
8               priate stakeholders; and

9               “(B) ensuring the integration of people  
10              with disabilities into emergency, preparedness,  
11              protection, mitigation, evacuation, sheltering,  
12              transition, resiliency, and recovery plans.”.

13 **SEC. 3. ASSESSMENT OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES REG-**  
14 **ISTRIES.**

15       (a) GENERAL.—The Administrator, subject to the  
16 availability of appropriations, shall enter into a contract  
17 with the National Academy of Public Administration with-  
18 in 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act to—

19              (1) conduct an assessment of the efficacy of  
20              State, local, and tribal governments’ and nonprofits’  
21              registries of people with disabilities to guide plan-  
22              ning and preparedness during local, State, and na-  
23              tional disasters or emergencies resulting from a nat-  
24              ural disaster, an act of terrorism, or other man-  
25              made disaster; and

1           (2) provide recommendations for establishing a  
2 Federal disabilities registry.

3 (b) STUDY GOALS.—The study shall—

4           (1) review national trends of State, local, and  
5 tribal governments' use of such registries;

6           (2) provide a comparative analysis, including  
7 costs, of the sampling of such registries;

8           (3) determine the effectiveness of such reg-  
9 istries for implementing emergency planning, evacu-  
10 ation, and recovery plans related to sheltering needs  
11 for people with disabilities during disasters and  
12 emergencies resulting from a natural disaster, an act  
13 of terrorism, or other man-made disaster;

14           (4) review best practices from State, local, and  
15 tribal governments that have adopted a registry  
16 plan; and

17           (5) provide recommendations for implementa-  
18 tion of a Federal disabilities registry.

19 (c) FINAL REPORT.—The National Academy of Pub-  
20 lic Administration shall—

21           (1) submit the findings of the study to the  
22 Committee on Homeland Security of the House of  
23 Representatives, the Committee on Homeland Secu-  
24 rity and Governmental Affairs of the Senate, and  
25 the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Man-

1        agement Agency not later than 12 months after the  
2        contract is awarded; and  
3                (2) periodically brief Congress on the progress  
4        of the study.

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