

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 10398

To prohibit certain sex offenders from entering or using the services of certain emergency shelters, to authorize the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to designate emergency shelters for such sex offenders, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 12, 2024

Ms. MACE (for herself, Mr. VAN DREW, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mrs. LUNA, and Ms. BOEBERT) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, 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

A BILL

To prohibit certain sex offenders from entering or using the services of certain emergency shelters, to authorize the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to designate emergency shelters for such sex offenders, 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 “Safe Shelters Act of
5 2024”.

1 **SEC. 2. EMERGENCY SHELTERS FOR SEX OFFENDERS.**

2 (a) PROHIBITION ON USE OF UNDESIGNATED SHEL-
3 TERS.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—Except for the purpose of
5 seeking information on designated shelters, a cov-
6 ered sex offender may not enter or use the services
7 of an undesignated shelter.

8 (2) NOTIFICATION.—A covered sex offender
9 who enters an undesignated shelter shall, imme-
10 diately upon entering such shelter, notify any indi-
11 vidual operating such shelter that such offender is
12 required to register on the National Sex Offender
13 Registry.

14 (3) PROVISION OF INFORMATION.—Upon re-
15 ceiving a notification from a covered sex offender
16 under paragraph (2), the individual so notified shall
17 inform such offender of—

18 (A) any designated shelter; and

19 (B) the prohibition in paragraph (1).

20 (4) PENALTY.—Whoever, in or affecting inter-
21 state commerce, being a covered sex offender, know-
22 ingly fails to comply with paragraph (1) or (2) shall
23 be fined under title 18, United States Code, impris-
24 oned not more than 5 years, or both.

1 (5) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This subsection shall
2 take effect 180 days after the date of enactment of
3 this Act.

4 (b) DESIGNATED SHELTERS FOR SEX OFFEND-
5 ERS.—

6 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the
7 Federal Emergency Management Agency may, as
8 necessary, designate a Federal building or Federal
9 prison from the lists created pursuant to paragraph
10 (2) as a designated shelter for the duration, as de-
11 termined by the Administrator, of a disaster de-
12 scribed in section 102 of the Robert T. Stafford Dis-
13 aster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42
14 U.S.C. 5122).

15 (2) LISTS OF BUILDINGS AND PRISONS.—Not
16 later than 180 days after the date of enactment of
17 this Act and on an ongoing basis thereafter, the Ad-
18 ministrator of the General Services Administration
19 and Director of the Bureau of Prisons shall each
20 make available to the Administrator of the Federal
21 Emergency Management Agency a list of available
22 Federal buildings or Federal prisons, as appropriate,
23 that the Administrator of the Federal Emergency
24 Management Agency may designate pursuant to
25 paragraph (1).

1 (3) DISTRIBUTION OF INFORMATION.—The Ad-
2 ministrators of the Federal Emergency Management
3 Agency shall make available to each individual oper-
4 ating an undesignated shelter information on each
5 designated shelter.

6 (c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

7 (1) COVERED SEX OFFENDER.—The term “cov-
8 ered sex offender” means a sex offender who is re-
9 quired to register on the National Sex Offender Reg-
10 istry under section 113 of the Adam Walsh Child
11 Protection and Safety Act of 2006 (34 U.S.C.
12 20913).

13 (2) DESIGNATED SHELTER.—The term “des-
14 ignated shelter” means an emergency shelter that is
15 designated for use under this section by covered sex
16 offenders only.

17 (3) EMERGENCY SHELTER.—The term “emer-
18 gency shelter” means a shelter run by the Federal
19 Emergency Management Agency or a State or local
20 government in response to a disaster described in
21 section 102 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief
22 and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5122).

23 (4) NATIONAL SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY.—The
24 term “National Sex Offender Registry” means the
25 national database established under section 119 of

1 the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of
2 2006 (34 U.S.C. 20921).

3 (5) SEX OFFENDER.—The term “sex offender”
4 has the meaning given such term in section 111 of
5 the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of
6 2006 (34 U.S.C. 20911).

7 (6) UNDESIGNATED SHELTER.—The term “un-
8 designated shelter” means an emergency shelter
9 other than a designated shelter.

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