

(c) Capabilities

The plan shall ensure that the Surge Capacity Force—

(1) includes a sufficient number of individuals credentialed in accordance with section 320 of this title that are capable of deploying rapidly and efficiently after activation to prepare for, respond to, and recover from natural disasters, acts of terrorism, and other man-made disasters, including catastrophic incidents; and

(2) includes a sufficient number of full-time, highly trained individuals credentialed in accordance with section 320 of this title to lead and manage the Surge Capacity Force.

(d) Training

The plan shall ensure that the Administrator provides appropriate and continuous training to members of the Surge Capacity Force to ensure such personnel are adequately trained on the Agency's programs and policies for natural disasters, acts of terrorism, and other man-made disasters.

(e) No impact on agency personnel ceiling

Surge Capacity Force members shall not be counted against any personnel ceiling applicable to the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

(f) Expenses

The Administrator may provide members of the Surge Capacity Force with travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, at rates authorized for employees of agencies under subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5 for the purpose of participating in any training that relates to service as a member of the Surge Capacity Force.

(g) Immediate implementation of Surge Capacity Force involving Federal employees

As soon as practicable after October 4, 2006, the Administrator shall develop and implement—

- (1) the procedures under subsection (b); and
- (2) other elements of the plan needed to establish the portion of the Surge Capacity Force consisting of individuals designated under those procedures.

(Pub. L. 109-295, title VI, § 624, Oct. 4, 2006, 120 Stat. 1419.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, referred to in subsec. (a)(2)(A), is Pub. L. 93-288, May 22, 1974, 88 Stat. 143, as amended, which is classified principally to chapter 68 (§5121 et seq.) of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 5121 of Title 42 and Tables.

PART B—EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
CAPABILITIES**§ 721. Evacuation preparedness technical assistance**

The Administrator, in coordination with the heads of other appropriate Federal agencies, shall provide evacuation preparedness technical assistance to State, local, and tribal govern-

ments, including the preparation of hurricane evacuation studies and technical assistance in developing evacuation plans, assessing storm surge estimates, evacuation zones, evacuation clearance times, transportation capacity, and shelter capacity.

(Pub. L. 109-295, title VI, § 632, Oct. 4, 2006, 120 Stat. 1421.)

GUIDANCE ON EVACUATION ROUTES

Pub. L. 115-254, div. D, § 1209, Oct. 5, 2018, 132 Stat. 3441, provided that:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—

“(1) IDENTIFICATION.—The Administrator [of the Federal Emergency Management Agency], in coordination with the Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration, shall develop and issue guidance for State, local, and Indian tribal governments regarding the identification of evacuation routes.

“(2) GUIDANCE.—The Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration, in coordination with the Administrator, shall revise existing guidance or issue new guidance as appropriate for State, local, and Indian tribal governments regarding the design, construction, maintenance, and repair of evacuation routes.

“(b) CONSIDERATIONS.—

“(1) IDENTIFICATION.—In developing the guidance under subsection (a)(1), the Administrator shall consider—

“(A) whether evacuation routes have resisted impacts and recovered quickly from disasters, regardless of cause;

“(B) the need to evacuate special needs populations, including—

“(i) individuals with a physical or mental disability;

“(ii) individuals in schools, daycare centers, mobile home parks, prisons, nursing homes and other long-term care facilities, and detention centers;

“(iii) individuals with limited-English proficiency;

“(iv) the elderly; and

“(v) individuals who are tourists, seasonal workers, or homeless;

“(C) the sharing of information and other public communications with evacuees during evacuations;

“(D) the sheltering of evacuees, including the care, protection, and sheltering of animals;

“(E) the return of evacuees to their homes; and

“(F) such other items the Administrator considers appropriate.

“(2) DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE, AND REPAIR.—In revising or issuing guidance under subsection (a)(2), the Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration shall consider—

“(A) methods that assist evacuation routes to—

“(i) withstand likely risks to viability, including flammability and hydrostatic forces;

“(ii) improve durability, strength (including the ability to withstand tensile stresses and compressive stresses), and sustainability; and

“(iii) provide for long-term cost savings;

“(B) the ability of evacuation routes to effectively manage contraflow operations;

“(C) for evacuation routes on public lands, the viewpoints of the applicable Federal land management agency regarding emergency operations, sustainability, and resource protection; and

“(D) such other items the Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration considers appropriate.

“(c) STUDY.—The Administrator, in coordination with the Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration and State, local, territorial, and Indian tribal governments, may—

“(1) conduct a study of the adequacy of available evacuation routes to accommodate the flow of evacuees; and

“(2) submit recommendations on how to help with anticipated evacuation route flow, based on the study conducted under paragraph (1), to—

“(A) the Federal Highway Administration;

“(B) the [Federal Emergency Management] Agency;

“(C) State, local, territorial, and Indian tribal governments; and

“(D) Congress.”

[For definition of “State”, as used in section 1209 of Pub. L. 115-254, set out above, see section 1203 of Pub. L. 115-254, set out as a note under section 5122 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare.]

§ 722. Urban Search and Rescue Response System

(a) In general

There is in the Agency a system known as the Urban Search and Rescue Response System.

(b) Authorization of appropriations

There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out the system for fiscal year 2008, an amount equal to the amount appropriated for the system for fiscal year 2007 and an additional \$20,000,000.

(Pub. L. 109-295, title VI, § 634, Oct. 4, 2006, 120 Stat. 1421.)

§ 723. Metropolitan Medical Response Grant Program

(a) In general

There is a Metropolitan Medical Response Program.

(b) Purposes

The program shall include each purpose of the program as it existed on June 1, 2006.

(c) Authorization of appropriations

There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out the program for fiscal year 2008, an amount equal to the amount appropriated for the program for fiscal year 2007 and an additional \$30,000,000.

(Pub. L. 109-295, title VI, § 635, Oct. 4, 2006, 120 Stat. 1421.)

§ 724. Logistics

The Administrator shall develop an efficient, transparent, and flexible logistics system for procurement and delivery of goods and services necessary for an effective and timely response to natural disasters, acts of terrorism, and other man-made disasters and for real-time visibility of items at each point throughout the logistics system.

(Pub. L. 109-295, title VI, § 636, Oct. 4, 2006, 120 Stat. 1422.)

§ 725. Prepositioned equipment program

(a) In general

The Administrator shall establish a prepositioned equipment program to preposition standardized emergency equipment in at least 11 locations to sustain and replenish critical assets used by State, local, and tribal governments in response to (or rendered inoperable by the effects of) natural disasters, acts of terrorism, and other man-made disasters.

(b) Notice

The Administrator shall notify State, local, and tribal officials in an area in which a location for the prepositioned equipment program will be closed not later than 60 days before the date of such closure.

(Pub. L. 109-295, title VI, § 637, Oct. 4, 2006, 120 Stat. 1422.)

§ 726. Basic life supporting first aid and education

The Administrator shall enter into agreements with organizations to provide funds to emergency response providers to provide education and training in life supporting first aid to children.

(Pub. L. 109-295, title VI, § 639, Oct. 4, 2006, 120 Stat. 1423.)

§ 727. Improvements to information technology systems

(a) Measures to improve information technology systems

The Administrator, in coordination with the Chief Information Officer of the Department, shall take appropriate measures to update and improve the information technology systems of the Agency, including measures to—

(1) ensure that the multiple information technology systems of the Agency (including the National Emergency Management Information System, the Logistics Information Management System III, and the Automated Deployment Database) are, to the extent practicable, fully compatible and can share and access information, as appropriate, from each other;

(2) ensure technology enhancements reach the headquarters and regional offices of the Agency in a timely fashion, to allow seamless integration;

(3) develop and maintain a testing environment that ensures that all system components are properly and thoroughly tested before their release;

(4) ensure that the information technology systems of the Agency have the capacity to track disaster response personnel, mission assignments task orders, commodities, and supplies used in response to a natural disaster, act of terrorism, or other man-made disaster;

(5) make appropriate improvements to the National Emergency Management Information System to address shortcomings in such system on October 4, 2006; and

(6) provide training, manuals, and guidance on information technology systems to personnel, including disaster response personnel, to help ensure employees can properly use information technology systems.

(b) Report

Not later than 270 days after October 4, 2006, the Administrator shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report describing the implementation of this section, including a description of any actions taken, improvements made, and remaining problems and a description of any additional funding needed to