

## 117TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2780

To provide for climate change planning, mitigation, adaptation, and resilience in the United States Territories and Freely Associated States, and for other purposes.

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

April 22, 2021

Mr. Grijalva (for himself, Mr. Sablan, Mr. San Nicolas, Ms. Plaskett, Mr. Soto, and Ms. Velázquez) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Transportation and Infrastructure, and Science, Space, and Technology, 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 provide for climate change planning, mitigation, adaptation, and resilience in the United States Territories and Freely Associated States, 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 "Insular Area Climate
- 5 Change Act".
- 6 SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.
- 7 The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title.
- Sec. 2. Table of contents.
- Sec. 3. Definitions.
- Sec. 4. Findings.

#### TITLE I—GENERAL PROVISIONS

- Sec. 101. Insular Area Climate Change Interagency Task Force.
- Sec. 102. Non-Federal cost-share waiver.
- Sec. 103. Coral reefs prize competitions.

#### TITLE II—DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

- Sec. 201. Office of Insular Affairs Technical Assistance Program.
- Sec. 202. Runit Dome report and monitoring activities.

## TITLE III—NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

- Sec. 301. Climate Change Insular Research Grant Program.
- Sec. 302. Coastal management technical assistance and report.
- Sec. 303. National Weather Service technical assistance and grants.
- Sec. 304. Ocean and Coastal Mapping Integration Act.

#### TITLE IV—DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

- Sec. 401. Office of Insular Area Energy Policy and Programs.
- Sec. 402. Comprehensive energy plans.
- Sec. 403. Energy Efficient Product Rebate Program.
- Sec. 404. Renewable Energy Grant Program.
- Sec. 405. Offshore wind for the territories.
- Sec. 406. State Energy Program non-Federal cost-share waiver.

#### TITLE V—ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

- Sec. 501. Definitions.
- Sec. 502. Insular Area National Program Office.
- Sec. 503. Insular Area Sustainable Infrastructure Grant Program.
- Sec. 504. Insular Area Renewable Energy Grant Program.
- Sec. 505. Insular Area Technical Assistance Program.

#### TITLE VI—EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

- Sec. 601. Community disaster loans repayment cancellation.
- Sec. 602. Disaster relief non-Federal cost-share waiver.

#### l SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

- 2 In this Act, the following definitions apply:
- 3 (1) ADAPTATION.—The term "Adaptation"
- 4 means the capacity of natural and human systems to
- 5 adjust to climate change or its impacts in a matter

- that will reduce damage or take advantage of any
  beneficial aspects.
- 3 (2) FREELY ASSOCIATED STATES.—The term
  4 "Freely Associated States" means the Republic of
  5 the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micro6 nesia, and the Republic of Palau.
  - (3) Insular Areas.—The term "Insular Areas" means the territories and Freely Associated States.
    - (4) MITIGATION.—The term "Mitigation" means measures and initiatives that would limit or reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
    - (5) RESILIENCE.—The term "Resilience" means the capacity of natural and human systems to resist, assimilate, and recover from the effects of climate change in an efficient and timely manner, maintaining or restoring basic structures and essential functions.
    - (6) Renewable energy.—The term "renewable energy" means energy that has been derived from Earth's natural resources that are not finite or exhaustible, including solar, wind, hydroelectric, geothermal, and ocean (thermal and mechanics).
- (7) Renewable energy system.—The term
   "renewable energy system" includes off-grid or

- stand-alone systems, microgrids, nano grids, and virtual power plants systems based on renewable energy sources, including storage and other related ancillary equipment. These may also be referred to as "eligible projects". Waste to energy are not consid-
  - (8) TERRITORIES.—The term "territories" means American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands of the United States.
- 11 (9) TERRITORY.—The term "territory" means 12 American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the North-13 ern Mariana Islands, Guam, Puerto Rico, or the Vir-14 gin Islands of the United States.

### 15 SEC. 4. FINDINGS.

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16 Congress finds as follows:

ered as eligible projects.

- 17 (1) The Insular Areas are topographically and 18 environmentally diverse and treasured by millions of 19 individuals who call them home.
  - (2) The territories in the Caribbean (Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands of the United States) and the territories in the Pacific (American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and Guam) face many of the same climate

- change-related challenges. Freely Associated States
   face similar climate change-related vulnerabilities.
  - (3) Insular Areas are experiencing sea level rise, coastal erosion, and increasing storm impacts that threaten lives, critical infrastructure, ecosystems, and livelihood security.
  - (4) Temperature increases are likely to further create and intensify the length of droughts, reduce water supply, impact public health, and increase demand of freshwater in Insular Areas. In addition, temperature increases will drive coral reefs to extinction, eliminating a natural barrier against storm surge, increasing destruction of infrastructure, and threatening lives of the inhabitants of the islands.
  - (5) In 2017, two major storms, Hurricane Irma and Hurricane Maria, impacted Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands of the United States. Hurricane Maria caused thousands of deaths in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands of the United States and significant damage to their infrastructure, including Puerto Rico's energy system. Hurricane Maria destroyed millions of trees in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands of the United States, which has significantly increased erosion and sediment transport. As

1	a result, reservoirs have lost significant storage ca-
2	pacity and coral reefs are severely impacted.
3	(6) In 2018, Typhoon Yutu impacted the Com-
4	monwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and
5	Guam, causing catastrophic destruction in those ter-
6	ritories.
7	TITLE I—GENERAL PROVISIONS
8	SEC. 101. INSULAR AREA CLIMATE CHANGE INTERAGENCY
9	TASK FORCE.
10	(a) Establishment of Task Force.—Not later
11	than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act
12	the following shall jointly establish the "Insular Area Cli-
13	mate Change Interagency Task Force" (hereafter in this
14	section referred to as the "Task Force"):
15	(1) The Secretary of the Interior.
16	(2) The Secretary of Energy.
17	(3) The Secretary of State.
18	(4) The Secretary of Housing and Urban Devel-
19	opment.
20	(5) The Secretary of Agriculture.
21	(6) The Secretary of Commerce.
22	(7) The Administrator of the Federal Emer-
23	gency Management Agency.
24	(8) The Administrator of the Environmental
25	Protection Agency.

1	(b) Chairperson.—The Task Force shall be chaired
2	by the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Manage-
3	ment Agency.
4	(c) Duties.—The Task Force shall—
5	(1) evaluate all Federal programs regarding
6	ways to provide greater access to Federal programs
7	and equitable baseline funding in relation to States,
8	to territories for climate change planning, mitiga-
9	tion, adaptation, and resilience;
10	(2) identify statutory barriers to providing ter-
11	ritories greater access to Federal programs and eq-
12	uitable baseline funding; and
13	(3) provide recommendations related to climate
14	change in Insular Areas.
15	(d) Comprehensive Report.—Not later than 1
16	year after the establishment of the Task Force, the Task
17	Force, in consultation with Insular Areas governments,
18	shall issue a comprehensive report that—
19	(1) identifies Federal programs that have an
20	impact on climate change planning, mitigation, ad-
21	aptation, and resilience, but exclude territories in re-
22	gard to eligibility, funding, and assistance, or do not
23	provide equitable baseline funding in relation to

States; and

- 1 (2) provides advice and recommendations re-2 lated to climate change in Insular Areas, such as 3 new suggested Federal programs or initiatives. 4 (e) Publication; Public Availability.—The Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency shall ensure that the report required under subsection 6 7 (d) is— 8 (1) submitted to the Committees on Energy and 9 Commerce and Natural Resources of the House of Representatives, and Energy and Natural Resources 10 11 of the Senate; 12 (2) published in the Federal Register for public 13 comment for a period of at least 60 days; and 14 (3) made available on a public website along 15 with any comments received during the public com-16 ment period required under paragraph (2). SEC. 102. NON-FEDERAL COST-SHARE WAIVER.
- 18 Section 501 of the Omnibus Territories Act of 1977
- 19 (48 U.S.C. 1469a), is amended by adding at the end the
- 20 following:
- 21 "(e) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in
- the case of the Insular Areas, any department or agency
- 23 shall waive any requirement for non-Federal matching
- funds under \$750,000 (including in-kind contributions)
- required by law to be provided by those jurisdictions.".

## 1 SEC. 103. CORAL REEFS PRIZE COMPETITIONS.

2	(a) PRIZE COMPETITIONS.—The Director of the Of-
3	fice of Science and Technology Policy shall work with the
4	head of each Federal agency represented on the U.S. Coral
5	Reef Task Force established under Executive Order 13089
6	(63 Fed. Reg. 32701) to establish prize competitions, in
7	accordance with section 24 of the Stevenson-Wydler Tech-
8	nology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3719), that pro-
9	mote coral reef research and conservation in the Insular
10	Areas.
11	(b) Waiver of Matching Requirement.—Section
12	204(b) of the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000 (16
13	U.S.C. 6403(b)) is amended—
14	(1) by striking the enumerator and heading for
15	paragraph (2) and inserting the following:
16	"(2) Waivers.—
17	"(A) NEED AND BENEFIT.—"; and
18	(2) by adding at the end of paragraph (2) the
19	following:
20	"(B) Sustaining coral reef manage-
21	MENT AND MONITORING.—The Secretary shall
22	waive all of the matching requirement under
23	paragraph (1) for grants to implement State
24	and territorial coral reef conservation coopera-
25	tive agreements to sustain coral reef manage-
26	ment and monitoring in Florida, Hawaii, Amer-

1	ican Samoa, the Commonwealth of the North-
2	ern Mariana Islands, Guam, Puerto Rico, and
3	the Virgin Islands of the United States.".
4	TITLE II—DEPARTMENT OF THE
5	INTERIOR
6	SEC. 201. OFFICE OF INSULAR AFFAIRS TECHNICAL ASSIST-
7	ANCE PROGRAM.
8	(a) In General.—The Secretary of the Interior, act-
9	ing through the Office of Insular Affairs Technical Assist-
10	ance Program, shall provide technical assistance for cli-
11	mate change planning, mitigation, adaptation, and resil-
12	ience to Insular Areas under the jurisdiction of such Pro-
13	gram.
14	(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
15	authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of the Inte-
16	rior to carry out this section \$5,000,000 for each of the
17	fiscal years 2022 through 2026.
18	SEC. 202. RUNIT DOME REPORT AND MONITORING ACTIVI-
19	TIES.
20	(a) In General.—Not later than 1 year after the
21	date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior
22	shall submit to the Committees on Natural Resources and
23	Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives,
24	and to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
25	of the Senate, a report, prepared by independent experts

1	not employed by the U.S. government, on the impacts of
2	climate change on the "Runit Dome" nuclear waste dis-
3	posal site in Enewetak Atoll, Marshall Islands, and on
4	other environmental hazards in the vicinity thereof. The
5	report shall include the following:
6	(1) A detailed scientific analysis of any threats
7	to the environment, and to the health and safety of
8	Enewetak Atoll residents, posed by each of the fol-
9	lowing:
10	(A) The "Runit Dome" nuclear waste dis-
11	posal site.
12	(B) Crypts used to contain nuclear waste
13	and other toxins on Enewetak Atoll.
14	(C) Radionuclides and other toxins present
15	in the lagoon of Enewetak Atoll, including areas
16	in the lagoon where nuclear waste was dumped.
17	(D) Radionuclides and other toxins, includ-
18	ing beryllium, which may be present on the is-
19	lands of Enewetak Atoll as a result of nuclear
20	tests and other activities of the U.S. govern-
21	ment, including tests of chemical and biological
22	warfare agents, rocket tests, contaminated air-

craft landing on Enewetak Island, and nuclear

cleanup activities.

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1	(E) Radionuclides and other toxins that
2	may be present in the drinking water on
3	Enewetak Island or in the water source for the
4	desalination plant.
5	(F) Radionuclides and other toxins that
6	may be present in the groundwater under and
7	in the vicinity of the nuclear waste disposal fa-
8	cility on Runit Island.
9	(2) A detailed scientific analysis of the extent to
10	which rising sea levels, severe weather events and
11	other effects of climate change might exacerbate any
12	of the threats identified above.
13	(3) A detailed plan, including costs, to relocate
14	all of the nuclear waste and other toxic waste con-
15	tained in—
16	(A) the "Runit Dome" nuclear waste dis-
17	posal site;
18	(B) all of the crypts on Enewetak Atoll
19	containing such waste; and
20	(C) the three dumping areas in Enewetak's
21	lagoon to a safe, secure facility to be con-
22	structed in an uninhabited, unincorporated ter-
23	ritory of the United States.
24	(b) Marshallese Participation.—The Secretary
25	of the Interior shall allow scientists or other experts se-

- 1 lected by the Republic of the Marshall Islands to partici-
- 2 pate in all aspects of the preparation of the report re-
- 3 quired by subsection (a), including, without limitation, de-
- 4 veloping the work plan, identifying questions, conducting
- 5 research, and collecting and interpreting data.
- 6 (c) Publication.—The report required in subsection
- 7 (a) shall be published in the Federal Register for public
- 8 comment for a period of not fewer than 60 days.
- 9 (d) Public Availability.—The Secretary of the In-
- 10 terior shall publish the study required under subsection
- 11 (a) and results submitted under subsection (b) on a public
- 12 website.
- (e) Authorization of Appropriation for Re-
- 14 PORT.—It is hereby authorized to be appropriated to the
- 15 Department of the Interior, Office of Insular Affairs, for
- 16 fiscal year 2022 such sums as may be necessary to
- 17 produce the report required in subsection (a).
- 18 (f) Indefinite Authorization of Appropriation
- 19 FOR RUNIT DOME MONITORING ACTIVITIES.—It is hereby
- 20 authorized to be appropriated to the Department of En-
- 21 ergy such sums as may be necessary to comply with the
- 22 requirements of 48 U.S.C. 1921b(f)(1)(B).

## III—NATIONAL OCEANIC TITLE AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINIS-2 **TRATION** 3 4 SEC. 301. CLIMATE CHANGE INSULAR RESEARCH GRANT 5 PROGRAM. 6 (a) In General.—The Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration shall es-7 8 tablish a Climate Change Insular Research Grant Pro-9 gram to provide grants to institutions of higher education, 10 as such term is defined in section 101(a) of the Higher 11 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001(a)), and nonprofit 12 organizations in Insular Areas for monitoring, collecting, 13 synthesizing, analyzing, and publishing local climate change data, including ocean temperature, sea level rise, 15 ocean acidification, and altered ocean currents data. 16 (b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To carry out this section there is authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator \$5,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 18 19 2022 through 2026. 20 SEC. 302. COASTAL MANAGEMENT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE 21 AND REPORT. 22 (a) Technical Assistance.— 23 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the 24 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 25 acting through the Director of the Office for Coastal

1	Management, shall provide technical assistance to
2	Insular Areas to enhance such entities' coastal man-
3	agement and climate change programs.
4	(2) Authorization of appropriations.—To
5	carry out this subsection there is authorized to be
6	appropriated to the Administrator of the National
7	Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
8	\$5,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2022 through
9	2026.
10	(b) Annual Report.—The Administrator of the Na-
11	tional Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, acting
12	through the Director of the Office for Coastal Manage-
13	ment, shall submit an annual report to the Committee or
14	Natural Resources of the House of Representatives and
15	the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
16	of the Senate on the status of—
17	(1) wetland, mangrove, and estuary conditions
18	in Insular Areas; and
19	(2) climate change impacts, including ecological
20	economic, and cultural impacts, in Insular Areas.
21	SEC. 303. NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE TECHNICAL AS
22	SISTANCE AND GRANTS.
23	(a) Technical Assistance.—
24	(1) In general.—The Administrator of the
25	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

1 acting through the Director of the National Weather 2 Service, shall provide technical assistance and out-3 reach to Insular Areas through the San Juan, Tiyan, and Pago Pago Weather Forecast Offices of 5 the National Weather Service. For the purposes of 6 this section, the Administrator may also employ other agency entities as the Administrator deems 7 8 necessary, in order to improve weather data collec-9 tion, produce more accurate tropical weather fore-10 casts, and provide science, data, information, and 11 impact-based decision support services to reduce 12 hurricane, typhoon, droughts, tsunamis, tides, and 13 sea level rise impacts in the Insular Areas.

(2) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To carry out this subsection there is authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator \$5,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2022 through 2026.

### (b) Grants.—

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(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration may provide grants to academic, nonprofit, and local entities to conduct climate change research to improve weather data collection, produce more accurate tropical weather forecasts, and provide science, data, information, and impact-based decision support serv-

1	ices to reduce hurricane, typhoon, droughts,
2	tsunamis, tides, and sea level rise impacts in the In-
3	sular Areas.
4	(2) Authorization of appropriations.—To
5	carry out this subsection there is authorized to be
6	appropriated to the Administrator \$5,000,000 for
7	each of the fiscal years 2022 through 2026.
8	SEC. 304. OCEAN AND COASTAL MAPPING INTEGRATION
9	ACT.
10	Section 12204 of the Ocean and Coastal Mapping In-
11	tegration Act (33 U.S.C. 3503) is amended—
12	(1) in paragraph (12) by striking "and";
13	(2) in paragraph (13) by striking the period at
14	the end and inserting "; and"; and
15	(3) by adding at the end the following:
16	"(14) The study of Insular Areas and the ef-
17	fects of climate change".
18	TITLE IV—DEPARTMENT OF
19	ENERGY
20	SEC. 401. OFFICE OF INSULAR AREA ENERGY POLICY AND
21	PROGRAMS.
22	(a) In General.—Title II of the Department of En-
23	ergy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7131 et seq.) is amend-
24	ed by adding at the end the following:

1	"SEC. 218. OFFICE OF INSULAR AREA ENERGY POLICY AND
2	PROGRAMS.
3	"(a) Establishment.—There is established within
4	the Department an Office of Insular Area Energy Policy
5	and Programs (referred to in this section as the 'Office').
6	The Office shall be headed by a Director, who shall be
7	appointed by the Secretary and compensated at a rate
8	equal to that of level IV of the Executive Schedule under
9	section 5315 of title 5, United States Code.
10	"(b) Duties.—The Office shall—
11	"(1) direct, coordinate, implement, and monitor
12	energy planning, education, management, conserva-
13	tion, and delivery programs of the Department to—
14	"(A) assist Insular Areas in developing
15	comprehensive energy plans;
16	"(B) expand renewable energy and energy
17	efficiency in Insular Areas;
18	"(C) reduce or stabilize energy costs in In-
19	sular Areas;
20	"(D) enhance and strengthen energy infra-
21	structure in Insular Areas to withstand natural
22	disasters; and
23	"(E) work with Insular Areas to develop
24	improved regulatory and oversight conditions;
25	and

- 1 "(2) centralize and align all ongoing Depart-
- 2 ment of Energy efforts in the Insular Areas.
- 3 "(c) Annual Report.—The Director shall submit
- 4 an annual report to the Committee on Natural Resources
- 5 and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the
- 6 House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy
- 7 and Natural Resources of the Senate on the status of all
- 8 projects undertaken and grants approved by the Office.
- 9 "(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
- 10 is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry
- 11 out this section \$20,000,000 for each of the fiscal years
- 12 2022 through 2026.
- 13 "(e) Non-Federal Cost-Share Waiver.—Any
- 14 funding made available to Insular Areas by the Office of
- 15 Insular Area Energy Policy and Programs under this or
- 16 any other Federal law shall not be subject to a non-Fed-
- 17 eral share funding requirement.".
- 18 (b) Conforming Amendments.—
- 19 (1) Table of contents.—The table of con-
- tents of the Department of Energy Organization Act
- 21 is amended by inserting after the item relating to
- section 217 the following:
  - "Sec. 218. Office of Insular Area Energy Policy and Programs.".
- 23 (2) Positions at Level IV.—Section 5315 of
- title 5, United States Code, is amended by inserting
- 25 after the item related to the Director, Office of

1	Science, Department of Energy the following new
2	item: "Director, Office of Insular Area Energy Pol-
3	icy and Programs, Department of Energy.".
4	SEC. 402. COMPREHENSIVE ENERGY PLANS.
5	(a) In General.—Not later than 1 year after the
6	date of the enactment of this Act, the Office of Insular
7	Area Energy Policy and Programs in the Department of
8	Energy, in consultation with the Office of Insular Affairs
9	of the Department of the Interior, shall submit to the
10	Committees on Energy and Commerce and Natural Re-
11	sources of the House of Representatives and the Com-
12	mittee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate
13	a report containing—
14	(1) the results of a study of the execution of the
15	comprehensive energy plans required by section 9 of
16	Public Law 113–235 (48 U.S.C. 1492a), includ-
17	ing—
18	(A) initial, planned, and current sources of
19	renewable energy;
20	(B) initial, planned, and current energy
21	imports; and
22	(C) projected and actual energy needs dur-
23	ing calendar year 2020 for each Insular Area;
24	(2) the lessons learned from the preparation of
25	these plans:

1	(3) the date on which each plan was most re-
2	cently updated; and
3	(4) recommendations with respect to each Insu-
4	lar Area, on the need to update such plans.
5	(b) Publication; Public Availability.—The Sec-
6	retary of Energy shall ensure that—
7	(1) the report required by subsection (a) is pub-
8	lished in the Federal Register for public comment
9	for a period of not fewer than 60 days; and
10	(2) the report required by subsection (a) and
11	any comments received under subsection (b) are
12	made available on a public website.
13	SEC. 403. ENERGY EFFICIENT PRODUCT REBATE PROGRAM.
14	(a) Definitions.—In this section:
15	(1) Eligible territory.—The term "eligible
16	territory" means a territory that meets the require-
17	ments of subsection (c).
18	(2) Energy star program.—The term "En-
19	ergy Star program" means the program established
20	by section 324A of the Energy Policy and Conserva-
21	tion Act (42 U.S.C. 6294a).
22	(3) Residential energy star product.—
23	The term "residential Energy Star product" means
24	a product for a residence that is rated for energy ef-
25	ficiency under the Energy Star program.

(4) Energy office.—The term "energy of-1 fice" means the government agency within the terri-2 3 tory responsible for developing an energy conservation plan under section 362 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6322). 5 6 (5) Rebate Program.—The term "rebate pro-7 gram" means an energy efficient product rebate pro-8 gram described in subsection (c)(1). 9 (b) Establishment.—The Secretary of Energy 10 shall establish a program, to be known as the "Energy Efficient Product Rebate Program", under which the Di-11 12 rector of the Office of Insular Area Energy Policy Pro-13 grams shall provide allocations to eligible territories in ac-14 cordance with this section. 15 (c) ELIGIBLE TERRITORIES.—A territory shall be eligible to receive an allocation under subsection (d) if the 16 territory— 17 18 (1) establishes (or has established) an energy 19 efficient product rebate program to provide rebates 20 to residential consumers for the purchase of residen-21 tial Energy Star products to replace used products 22 of the same type; 23 (2) establishes clear requirements to prevent il-24 legal dumping of old products and the overflow of

landfills, and ensure environmental justice;

- (3) submits an application for the allocation at such time, in such form, and containing such information as the Director of the Office of Insular Area Energy Policy and Programs may require; and
  - (4) provides assurances satisfactory to the Director of the Office of Insular Area Energy Policy and Programs that the territory will use the allocation to supplement, but not supplant, funds made available to carry out the rebate program.

## (d) Amount of Allocations.—

- (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2026, the Director of the Office of Insular Area Energy Policy and Programs shall allocate to the energy office of each eligible territory to carry out subsection (e) an amount equal to the product obtained by multiplying the amount made available under subsection (g) for the fiscal year by the ratio that the population of the territory in the most recent calendar year for which data are available bears to the total population of all eligible territories in that calendar year.
- (2) MINIMUM ALLOCATIONS.—For each fiscal year, the amounts allocated under this subsection shall be adjusted proportionately so that no eligible

- 1 territory is allocated a sum that is less than an
- amount determined by the Director.
- 3 (e) Use of Allocated Funds.—An allocation to
- 4 an energy office under subsection (d) may be used to pay
- 5 not more than 75 percent of the cost of establishing and
- 6 carrying out a rebate program.
- 7 (f) Issuance of Rebates.—The amount of a rebate
- 8 provided under a rebate program shall be determined by
- 9 the applicable energy office, taking into consideration—
- 10 (1) the amount of the allocation to the energy
- office under subsection (d);
- 12 (2) the amount of any tax incentive available
- for the purchase of the residential Energy Star
- 14 product; and
- 15 (3) the difference between the cost of the resi-
- dential Energy Star product and the cost of a prod-
- 17 uct that is not a residential Energy Star product,
- but is of the same type as, and is the nearest capac-
- ity, performance, and other relevant characteristics
- 20 (as determined by the energy office) to, the residen-
- 21 tial Energy Star product.
- 22 (g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
- 23 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
- 24 \$5,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2022 through
- 25 2026.

## 1 SEC. 404. RENEWABLE ENERGY GRANT PROGRAM.

2	(a) Definitions.—In this section:
3	(1) COVERED ENTITY.—The term "covered en
4	tity" means a not-for-profit organization determined
5	eligible by the Secretary for purposes of this section
6	(2) Department of energy national lab
7	ORATORIES.—The term "Department of Energy na
8	tional laboratories" has the same meaning as the
9	term "National Laboratory" under section 2 of the
10	Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 15801).
11	(3) Microgrid.—The term "microgrid" means
12	an electric system—
13	(A) that serves the local community with a
14	power generation and distribution system; and
15	(B) that has the ability—
16	(i) to disconnect from a traditiona
17	electric grid; and
18	(ii) to operate autonomously when dis
19	connected.
20	(4) Program.—The term "Program" means
21	the Renewable Energy Grant Program established
22	under subsection (b).
23	(5) SMART GRID.—The term "smart grid"
24	means an intelligent electric grid that uses digita
25	communications technology information systems

1	and automation to, while maintaining high system
2	reliability—
3	(A) detect and react to local changes in
4	usage;
5	(B) improve system operating efficiency;
6	and
7	(C) reduce spending costs.
8	(b) Establishment.—Not later than 180 days after
9	the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the
10	Office of Insular Area Energy Policy and Programs shall
11	establish a Renewable Energy Grant Program under
12	which the Director may award grants to covered entities
13	to facilitate projects in Insular Areas described in sub-
14	section (d).
15	(c) APPLICATIONS.—To be eligible for a grant under
16	the Program, a covered entity shall submit to the Director
17	an application at such time, in such form, and containing
18	such information as the Secretary may require.
19	(d) Use of Funds.—
20	(1) In general.—A covered entity receiving a
21	grant under the Program may use grant funds for
22	a project, in territories of the United States—
23	(A) to develop or construct a renewable en-
24	ergy system:

1	(B) to carry out an activity to increase en-
2	ergy efficiency;
3	(C) to develop or construct an energy stor-
4	age system or device for—
5	(i) a system developed or constructed
6	under subparagraph (A); or
7	(ii) an activity carried out under sub-
8	paragraph (B);
9	(D) to develop or construct—
10	(i) a smart grid; or
11	(ii) a microgrid; or
12	(E) to train residents of territories of the
13	United States to develop, construct, maintain,
14	or operate a renewable energy system.
15	(2) Limitation.—A covered entity receiving a
16	grant under the Program may not use grant funds
17	to develop or construct a facility that generates elec-
18	tricity using energy derived from—
19	(A) fossil fuels; or
20	(B) nuclear power.
21	(e) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Director shall en-
22	sure that Department of Energy national laboratories
23	offer to provide technical assistance to each covered entity
24	carrying out a project assisted with a grant under the Pro-
25	gram.

1	(f) Report.—Not later than two years after the es-
2	tablishment of the Program, and on an annual basis there-
3	after, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report con-
4	taining—
5	(1) an estimate of the amount of funds dis-
6	bursed under the Program;
7	(2) an estimate of the energy conservation
8	achieved as a result of the Program;
9	(3) a description of challenges encountered in
10	implementing projects described in subsection $(d)(1)$ ;
11	and
12	(4) any recommendations as to additional legis-
13	lative measures to increase the use of renewable en-
14	ergy in territories of the United States, as appro-
15	priate.
16	(g) GAO STUDY AND REPORT.—
17	(1) Study and report.—Not later than 180
18	days after the date of the enactment of this section,
19	the Comptroller General of the United States shall—
20	(A) conduct a study regarding renewable
21	energy and energy efficiency in territories of the
22	United States; and
23	(B) submit to Congress a report con-
24	taining—
25	(i) the findings of the study; and

1	(ii) related recommendations.
2	(2) Components.—The study conducted under
3	paragraph (1) shall consider, in relation to terri-
4	tories of the United States, the potential—
5	(A) to modify existing electric power sys-
6	tems to use renewable energy sources;
7	(B) to expand the use of microgrids; and
8	(C) to improve energy resiliency.
9	SEC. 405. OFFSHORE WIND FOR THE TERRITORIES.
10	(a) Application of Outer Continental Shelf
11	Lands Act With Respect to Territories of the
12	United States.—
13	(1) In General.—Section 2 of the Outer Con-
14	tinental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1331) is
15	amended—
16	(A) in subsection (a) by inserting "or lying
17	within the exclusive economic zone of the
18	United States and the Outer Continental Shelf
19	adjacent to any territory or possession of the
20	United States, except that such term shall not
21	include any area conveyed by Congress to a ter-
22	ritorial government for administration" after
23	"control";
24	(B) in subsection (p), by striking "and"
25	after the semicolon at the end;

1	(C) in subsection (q), by striking the pe-
2	riod at the end and inserting "; and; and
3	(D) by adding at the end the following:
4	"(r) The term 'State' means the several States, the
5	Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa,
6	the Virgin Islands of the United States, and the Common-
7	wealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.".
8	(2) Exclusions.—Section 18 of the Outer
9	Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1344) is
10	amended by adding at the end the following:
11	"(i) This section shall not apply
12	to the scheduling of lease sales in the
13	Outer Continental Shelf adjacent to
14	the Territories and possessions of the
15	United States.".
16	(b) WIND LEASE SALES FOR AREAS OF OUTER CON-
17	TINENTAL SHELF.—The Outer Continental Shelf Lands
18	Act (43 U.S.C. 1331 et seq.) is amended by adding at
19	the end the following:
20	"SEC. 33. WIND LEASE SALES FOR AREAS OF OUTER CONTI-
21	NENTAL SHELF.
22	"(a) AUTHORIZATION.—The Secretary may conduct
23	wind lease sales on the Outer Continental Shelf.

1	"(b) WIND LEASE SALE PROCEDURE.—Any wind
2	lease sale conducted under this section shall be considered
3	a lease under section 8(p).
4	"(c) WIND LEASE SALES OFF COASTS OF TERRI-
5	TORIES OF THE UNITED STATES.—
6	"(1) Study on feasibility of conducting
7	WIND LEASE SALES.—
8	"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall
9	conduct a study on the feasibility, including the
10	technological and long-term economic feasibility,
11	and the potential environmental effects of, con-
12	ducting wind lease sales on an area of the
13	Outer Continental Shelf within the territorial
14	jurisdiction of American Samoa, Guam, the
15	Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Is-
16	lands, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands of
17	the United States.
18	"(B) Consultation.—In conducting the
19	study required in subparagraph (A), the Sec-
20	retary shall consult—
21	"(i) the National Laboratories, that
22	term is defined in section 2 of the Energy
23	Policy Act of 2005;
24	"(ii) the National Oceanic and Atmos-
25	pheric Administration, including the Office

1	of National Marine Sanctuaries and Na-
2	tional Marine Fisheries Service; and
3	"(iii) the Governor of each of Amer-
4	ican Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana
5	Islands, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Is-
6	lands of the United States.
7	"(C) Publication.—The study required
8	in subparagraph (A) shall be published in the
9	Federal Register for public comment for a pe-
10	riod of not fewer than 60 days.
11	"(D) Submission of Results.—Not later
12	than 18 months after the date of the enactment
13	of this section, the Secretary shall submit the
14	results of the study conducted under subpara-
15	graph (A) to—
16	"(i) the Committee on Energy and
17	Natural Resources of the Senate;
18	"(ii) the Committee on Natural Re-
19	sources of the House of Representatives;
20	and
21	"(iii) each Delegate or Resident Com-
22	missioner to the House of Representatives
23	from American Samoa, Guam, the North-
24	ern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the
25	Virgin Islands of the United States.

1	"(E) Public availability.—The Sec-
2	retary shall publish the study required under
3	subparagraph (A) and results submitted under
4	subparagraph (D) on a public website.
5	"(2) Call for information and nomina-
6	TIONS.—The Secretary shall issue a call for informa-
7	tion and nominations for proposed wind lease sales
8	for areas determined to be feasible under the study
9	conducted under paragraph (1).
10	"(3) Conditional wind lease sales.—
11	"(A) In General.—For each territory,
12	the Secretary shall conduct not less than 1 wind
13	lease sale on an area of the Outer Continental
14	Shelf within the territorial jurisdiction of such
15	territory that meets each of the following cri-
16	teria:
17	"(i) The study required under para-
18	graph (1)(A) concluded that a wind lease
19	sale on the area is feasible.
20	"(ii) The Secretary has determined
21	that the call for information has generated
22	sufficient interest for the area.
23	"(iii) The Secretary has consulted
24	with the Secretary of Defense and other

1	relevant Federal agencies regarding such a
2	sale.
3	"(iv) The Secretary has consulted
4	with the Governor of the territory regard-
5	ing the suitability of the area for wind en-
6	ergy development.
7	"(B) Exception.—If no area of the Outer
8	Continental Shelf within the territorial jurisdic-
9	tion of a territory meets each of the criteria in
10	clauses (i) through (iv) of subparagraph (A),
11	the requirement under subparagraph (A) shall
12	not apply to such territory.".
13	SEC. 406. STATE ENERGY PROGRAM NON-FEDERAL COST-
14	SHARE WAIVER.
15	Funding made available to a territory under the De-
16	partment of Energy's State Energy Program (42 U.S.C.
17	6321 et seq.) shall not be subject to a non-Federal share
18	funding requirement.
19	TITLE V—ENVIRONMENTAL
20	PROTECTION AGENCY
21	SEC. 501. DEFINITIONS.
22	In this title:
23	(1) Administrator.—The term "Adminis-
24	trator" means the Administrator of the Environ-

1	(2) Director.—The term "Director" means
2	the Director of the Insular Area National Program
3	Office.
4	(3) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term "eligible enti-
5	ty" means each of the following:
6	(A) A government, municipality, agency, or
7	instrumentality of a territory.
8	(B) A private, nonprofit organization or in-
9	stitution.
10	(C) An institution of higher education (as
11	defined in section 101 of the Higher Education
12	Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001), except that such
13	term does not include private, nonprofit institu-
14	tions of higher education).
15	(D) Any combination of entities described
16	in subparagraphs (A) through (C), including
17	partnerships and consortiums of local govern-
18	ments.
19	(4) Office.—The term "Office" means the In-
20	sular Area National Program Office established by
21	section 502.
22	(5) Renewable energy.—The term "renew-
23	able energy" means energy that has been derived
24	from Earth's natural resources that are not finite or

1	exhaustible, including solar, wind, hydroelectric, geo-
2	thermal, ocean (thermal and mechanics).
3	SEC. 502. INSULAR AREA NATIONAL PROGRAM OFFICE.
4	(a) Establishment.—There is established within
5	the Environmental Protection Agency an office, to be
6	known as the Insular Area National Program Office. The
7	Office shall be headed by a Director, who shall be ap-
8	pointed by the Administrator and compensated at a rate
9	equal to that of level IV of the Executive Schedule under
10	section 5315 of title 5, United States Code.
11	(b) Duties.—The Director shall—
12	(1) direct, coordinate, implement, and monitor
13	programs of the Environmental Protection Agency
14	to—
15	(A) build, enhance, and strengthen infra-
16	structure in Insular Areas to withstand natural
17	disasters;
18	(B) expand renewable energy and energy
19	efficiency in Insular Areas; and
20	(C) provide technical assistance in Insular
21	Areas.
22	(2) centralize and align all ongoing Environ-
23	mental Protection Agency efforts in the Insular
24	Areas.

- 1 (c) Annual Report.—The Director shall submit an
- 2 annual report to the Committee on Natural Resources and
- 3 the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House
- 4 of Representatives, and the Committee on Energy and
- 5 Natural Resources of the Senate on the status of all
- 6 projects undertaken and grants approved by the Office.
- 7 (d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—For the
- 8 Insular Area National Program Office, there is authorized
- 9 to be appropriated to the Administrator \$20,000,000 for
- 10 each of the fiscal years 2022 through 2026.
- 11 (e) Non-Federal Cost-Share Waiver.—Any
- 12 funding made available to Insular Areas by the Office
- 13 shall not be subject to a non-Federal share funding re-
- 14 quirement.
- 15 SEC. 503. INSULAR AREA SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE
- 16 GRANT PROGRAM.
- 17 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 180 days after
- 18 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the
- 19 Insular Area National Program Office shall establish and
- 20 carry out a program, to be known as the Insular Area
- 21 Sustainable Infrastructure Grant Program to provide
- 22 grants to eligible entities in the Insular Areas to build,
- 23 enhance, and strengthen infrastructure systems in Insular
- 24 Areas to withstand natural disasters, including drinking

1	water systems, septic systems, stormwater systems, and
2	solid waste systems.
3	(b) Use of Funds.—An eligible entity that receives
4	a grant for infrastructure system projects under the Insu-
5	lar Areas Sustainable Infrastructure Grant Program may
6	use such funds for—
7	(1) development-phase activities, including plan-
8	ning, feasibility analysis (including any related anal-
9	ysis necessary to carry out an eligible project), rev-
10	enue forecasting, environmental review, permitting,
11	preliminary engineering and design work, and other
12	preconstruction activities;
13	(2) construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation,
14	and replacement activities; and
15	(3) the acquisition of real property or an inter-
16	est in real property (including land relating to the
17	project, and improvements to land), environmental
18	mitigation, construction contingencies, and acquisi-
19	tion of equipment.
20	(c) Applications.—
21	(1) Inclusions.—An application under this
22	subsection shall include—
23	(A) a description of the project proposed
24	by the eligible entity;

1	(B) an evaluation (using methodology ap-
2	proved by the Director) of the quantifiable and
3	unquantifiable benefits of the proposed project;
4	(C) an estimate of the cost of the proposed
5	project; and
6	(D) a description of the age and expected
7	lifetime of the infrastructure system funded by
8	the project.
9	(2) Priority.—In providing grants under this
10	section, the Director shall give priority to proposed
11	projects that, as determined by the Director—
12	(A) maximize public health benefits;
13	(B) are the most cost effective;
14	(C) serve areas with environmental justice
15	communities—
16	(i) in rural remote areas; or
17	(ii) that have challenged environ-
18	mental conditions.
19	(3) Application guidance and processes.—
20	The Director shall provide Insular Areas—
21	(A) guidance for use in applying for grant
22	funds under this section, including information
23	regarding—
24	(i) the process and forms for applica-
25	tions;

1	(ii) permissible uses of funds received;
2	and
3	(iii) an annual deadline for submission
4	of the applications;
5	(B) a process by which the Director shall
6	approve or disapprove each application; and
7	(C) a streamlined process by which an In-
8	sular Area may renew an application described
9	in subparagraph (A) for subsequent fiscal
10	years.
11	(d) Limitation on Use of Funds.—
12	(1) Office.—The Director shall use 100 per-
13	cent of the funds made available to carry out this
14	section to provide grants, on a competitive basis, to
15	eligible entities in Insular Areas.
16	(2) Grant recipient.—An eligible entity may
17	use not more than 10 percent of a grant provided
18	under this section for administrative expenses of an
19	approved project.
20	(e) Authorization of Appropriations.—To carry
21	out this section there is authorized to be appropriated to
22	the Administrator \$50,000,000 for each of the fiscal years
23	2022 through 2026.

## SEC. 504. INSULAR AREA RENEWABLE ENERGY GRANT PRO-2 GRAM. 3 (a) Establishment.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the 4 5 Insular Area National Program Office shall establish and carry out a program, to be known as the Insular Area 7 Renewable Energy Grant Program to provide grants to 8 eligible entities in the Insular Areas to expand renewable 9 energy and energy efficiency in the Insular Areas. 10 (b) ELIGIBILITY.— 11 (1) Projects eligible for assistance.— 12 The following projects may be carried out with 13 amounts made available under this section: 14 (A) Construction of a new renewable en-15 ergy system. 16 (B) A project for energy redundancy and resilience based on renewable energy and for 17 18 hurricane and storm damage reduction on re-19 newable energy systems that the Director deter-20 mines is technically sound, economically justi-21 fied, and environmentally acceptable. 22 (C) A project for enhanced energy effi-23 ciency in the operation of infrastructure that 24 belongs to an eligible entity. 25 (D) A project for repair, rehabilitation, or 26 replacement of a renewable energy system.

1	(E) A project to prevent, reduce, or miti-
2	gate the effects of hurricanes or storms, includ-
3	ing projects that enhance the resilience of re-
4	newable energy systems.
5	(F) Acquisition of real property or an in-
6	terest in real property—
7	(i) if the acquisition is integral to a
8	project described in subparagraphs (A)
9	through (D); or
10	(ii) pursuant to an existing plan that,
11	in the judgment of the Director, as appli-
12	cable, would mitigate the environmental
13	impacts of renewable energy system infra-
14	structure projects.
15	(G) A combination of projects under sub-
16	paragraphs (A) through (F).
17	(2) Activities eligible for assistance.—
18	An eligible entity may use a grant provided under
19	this section for, with respect to an eligible project—
20	(A) development-phase activities, including
21	planning, feasibility analysis (including any re-
22	lated analysis necessary to carry out an eligible
23	project), revenue forecasting, environmental re-
24	view, permitting, preliminary engineering and

1	design work, and other preconstruction activi-
2	ties;
3	(B) construction, reconstruction, rehabili-
4	tation, and replacement activities; and
5	(C) the acquisition of real property or an
6	interest in real property (including land relating
7	to the project, and improvements to land), envi-
8	ronmental mitigation, construction contin-
9	gencies, and acquisition of equipment.
10	(c) Applications.—
11	(1) Inclusions.—An application under this
12	subsection shall include—
13	(A) a description of the project proposed
14	by the eligible entity;
15	(B) an evaluation (using methodology ap-
16	proved by the Director) of the quantifiable and
17	unquantifiable benefits of the proposed project;
18	(C) an estimate of the cost of the proposed
19	project; and
20	(D) a description of the age and expected
21	lifetime of a renewable energy or energy effi-
22	ciency system funded by the project.
23	(2) Priority.—In providing grants under this
24	section, the Director shall give priority to proposed
25	projects that, as determined by the Director—

1	(A) maximize public health benefits;
2	(B) are the most cost effective;
3	(C) serve areas with environmental justice
4	communities—
5	(i) in rural remote areas; or
6	(ii) that are poor air quality areas.
7	(3) Application guidance and processes.—
8	The Director shall provide Insular Areas—
9	(A) guidance for use in applying for grant
10	funds under this section, including information
11	regarding—
12	(i) the process and forms for applica-
13	tions;
14	(ii) permissible uses of funds received;
15	and
16	(iii) an annual deadline for submission
17	of the applications;
18	(B) a process by which the Director shall
19	approve or disapprove each application; and
20	(C) a streamlined process by which an In-
21	sular Area may renew an application described
22	in subparagraph (A) for subsequent fiscal
23	years.
24	(d) Limitation on Use of Funds.—

1 (1) Office.—The Director shall use 100 per-2 cent of the funds made available to carry out this 3 section to provide grants, on a competitive basis, to

eligible entities in Insular Areas.

- (2) Grant recipient.—An eligible entity may 6 use not more than 10 percent of a grant provided 7 under this section to fund administrative expenses of 8 an approved project.
- 9 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To carry 10 out this section, there is authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator \$50,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 12 2022 through 2026.
- SEC. 505. INSULAR AREA TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PRO-
- 14 GRAM.
- (a) In General.—The Insular Area National Program Office Director shall establish a program, to be 16 known as the Insular Area Technical Assistance Program,
- to provide technical assistance to Insular Areas relating 18
- to climate change planning, mitigation, adaptation, and 19
- 20 resilience.

- 21 (b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
- 22 authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator to
- 23 carry out this section \$5,000,000 for each of the fiscal
- years 2022 through 2026.

1	TITLE VI—EMERGENCY
2	MANAGEMENT
3	SEC. 601. COMMUNITY DISASTER LOANS REPAYMENT CAN-
4	CELLATION.
5	Notwithstanding any other provision of law, repay-
6	ment of a loan made to a local government in an Insular
7	Area under section 417 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster
8	Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5184),
9	including any interest on such loan, shall be canceled.
10	SEC. 602. DISASTER RELIEF NON-FEDERAL COST-SHARE
<ul><li>10</li><li>11</li></ul>	SEC. 602. DISASTER RELIEF NON-FEDERAL COST-SHARE WAIVER.
11	WAIVER.
11 12	WAIVER.  Funding made available to an Insular Area for dis-
11 12 13	WAIVER.  Funding made available to an Insular Area for disaster relief, long-term recovery, restoration of infrastruc-
11 12 13 14	WAIVER.  Funding made available to an Insular Area for disaster relief, long-term recovery, restoration of infrastructure and housing, economic revitalization, and mitigation
11 12 13 14 15	WAIVER.  Funding made available to an Insular Area for disaster relief, long-term recovery, restoration of infrastructure and housing, economic revitalization, and mitigation pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and

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