

PREPARE Act – Section by Section Summary

Congressman Matt Cartwright

EXTREME WEATHER RESILIENCE, PREPAREDNESS, AND RISK MANAGEMENT

STRATEGIC PLANNING FOR EXTREME WEATHER RESILIENCE, PREPAREDNESS AND RISK MANAGEMENT

INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON EXTREME WEATHER RESILIENCE, PREPAREDNESS, AND RISK MANAGEMENT.

- Codifies the Council on Climate Preparedness and Resilience, consisting of entities within the Executive Office of the President, including the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ), the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), and the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP), amongst others.
- The Interagency Council will establish government-wide goals and priorities for extreme weather resilience, preparedness, and risk management.
- The Interagency Council will develop, recommend, coordinate, and track implementation of priority interagency Federal Government actions related to extreme weather, resilience, preparedness, and risk management and focus on the GAO high risk designated areas.
- The Interagency Council will support regional, State, local, and tribal action to assess extreme weather related vulnerabilities and cost-effectively increase resilience, preparedness, and risk management of communities as well as critical economic sectors in part by providing meteorological information and information on best practices.
- The Interagency Council will make information about the implementation of the agency resilience preparedness and risk management plans, government-wide goals, and GAO extreme weather-related High Risk report recommendations available online.
- The President through the Interagency Council will submit a report to Congress annually on how the government-wide goals and priorities for resilience preparedness and risk management are being implemented.

AGENCY PLANNING FOR EXTREME WEATHER-RELATED RISKS.

- Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the PREPARE Act, and every 2 years thereafter, each agency will submit to the Office of Management and Budget and to the Interagency Council a comprehensive plan that integrates consideration of extreme weather into such agency's operations and overall mission objectives. A few of the topics each agency plan will include are:
 - an identification and assessment of extreme weather-related impacts and risks to the agency's ability to accomplish its missions, operations, and programs as well as the effectiveness of State and local entities to respond to extreme weather;
 - an identification and assessment of barriers posed by Federal programs the agency administers to State and local extreme weather resilience, preparedness, and risk management efforts; and
 - a description of programs, policies, and plans the agency has already put in place, as well as additional actions the agency will take, to manage extreme weather risks in the near term and build resilience in the short and long term.
- The Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall, upon receipt of all agency extreme weather plans in a given year, consolidate, and submit to Congress, such plans.

ASSISTANCE IN IDENTIFYING THE BEST AVAILABLE METEOROLOGICAL SCIENCE AND EXTREME WEATHER RESILIENCE, PREPAREDNESS, AND RISK MANAGEMENT BEST PRACTICES

USGCRP WEB SITE.

- The Interagency Council shall designate an agency or agencies to establish, maintain, or designate a website that provides timely, actionable, and accessible information, data, and tools on current and future risks related to extreme weather, preparedness, resilience, and risk management, to support State, local, tribal, private sector, and other decisionmakers.
- This website will identify interagency progress and next steps towards responding to the threats posed by extreme weather to facilitate the identification and interpretation of the best available meteorological science, best practices, and interagency council information and tools.
- The Interagency Council will also designate one or more agencies and work with them to conduct outreach and educational activities to inform the public and local and State decisionmakers about the tools and information available on the website.

ADEQUATE FUNDING.

- The Director of the OMB will work with the United States Global Change Research Program (USGCRP) to ensure that adequate funding is requested for the National Climate Assessment, the website, and to otherwise carry out the PREPARE Act.

REGIONALCOORDINATION

INVENTORY.

- No later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the PREPARE Act, and every 2 years thereafter, the Interagency Council, or a working group of such Interagency Council established by the co-chairpersons thereof, will conduct an inventory of all regional offices, centers, and programs of agencies that are assisting with extreme weather resilience, preparedness, and risk management efforts at the State or local level.
- Each inventory conducted will include a description of the assistance each agency office, center, or program is providing to assist with extreme weather resilience, preparedness, and risk management efforts at the State or local level.

MEETINGS.

- Not later than 6 months after the publication of each inventory under section 9921, the Interagency Council will convene a meeting of representatives of the offices, centers, and programs included in such inventory to develop plans to coordinate the efforts of such offices, centers, and programs and facilitate efficient services to stakeholders.
- At these meetings, representatives will evaluate progress and jointly develop a strategy for realizing extreme weather resilience, preparedness, and risk management-related goals, including clearly identified responsibilities by each collaborating regional office, center, or program.

PROGRESS REPORTS.

- Not later than 90 days after each meeting under section 9922, each agency that participates in such meeting will submit to the Interagency Council, and make available to the USGCRP for inclusion in the National Climate Assessment, information describing progress in regional coordination and collaboration in aligning Federal resilience, preparedness, and risk management efforts at the State and local level, and the benefits of such regional coordination and collaboration.