



Legislation Text

File #: Res 1927-2013, **Version:** *

Res. No. 1927

Resolution calling upon the United States Congress to enact and the President to sign H.2887/S.1480, a bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to provide assistance for condominiums and housing cooperatives damaged by a major disaster, and for other purposes.

By Council Members Vallone, Brewer, Chin, Eugene, Fidler, Gentile, Jackson, James, Koo, Koppell, Mendez, Palma, Richards, Wills, Mark-Viverito, Williams, Barron, Dickens, Gennaro, Greenfield, Van Bramer, Rodriguez and Ulrich

Whereas, Over half a million New York City families reside in cooperatives or condominiums; and

Whereas, Cooperatives and condominiums were among the residences affected by Superstorm Sandy in October 2012; and

Whereas, In some cases, cooperatives and condominiums suffered hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of damages;

Whereas, Under current Federal Emergency Management Agency ("FEMA") policy, cooperative and condominium associations are considered business entities, making them ineligible for the types of federal disaster assistance available to single-family homes; and

Whereas, Due to their classification as business entities, cooperative and condominium associations are not eligible for grants to make expensive repairs to common areas such as utility rooms, lobbies, and roofs; and

Whereas, Without this critically needed assistance, cooperative and condominium associations are being forced to take on loans, spend significant portions of their reserves, or in some cases, impose assessments on individual homeowners to cover the cost of repairs; and

Whereas, H.2887/S.1480, introduced in 2013 by Rep. Israel (D-NY) and Sen. Schumer (D-NY) respectively, would amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, the law that

created FEMA in 1988, to provide cooperative and condominium associations with the same federal disaster assistance available to single-family homeowners; and

Whereas, Further, the bill would allow the President to regulate the maximum amount of federal disaster assistance that an association for a cooperative or condominium can receive per disaster; and

Whereas, Cooperative and condominium homeowners should be entitled to the same federal disaster assistance available to single-family homeowners; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Council of the City of New York calls upon the United States Congress to enact and the President to sign H.2887/S.1480, a bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to provide assistance for condominiums and housing cooperatives damaged by a major disaster, and for other purposes.

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GP
09/03/2013