

# 2019 Policy Updates for AUCD Emergency Preparedness SIG

## Current Proposed Legislation:

The **Real Emergency Access for Aging and Disability Inclusion for Disasters Act (REAADI)** ([S. 1755](#), [HR 3208](#)) was introduced in the House and Senate on June 10, 2019, by Senator Casey (D-PA) and Congressman Langevin (D-RI). REAADI would establish a National Commission on Disability Rights and Disasters to study the needs of individuals with disabilities, older adults and others with access and functional needs throughout emergency preparation and planning, disaster response, recovery and mitigation. Additionally, it would provide financial support to develop and provide technical assistance and training to state and local emergency managers as well as disaster relief agencies.



The **Disaster Relief Medicaid Act (DRMA)** ([S. 1754](#), [HR 3215](#)) was introduced in the House and Senate on June 10, 2019, by Senator Casey (D-PA) in the Senate and Congresswoman Shalala (D-FL) in the House. DRMA would ensure that individuals eligible for Medicaid who are forced to relocate due to a disaster are able to continue to access their Medicaid supported services.

The **Reforming Disaster Recovery Act** ([HR 3702 S. 2301](#)) introduced by Rep. Al Green (D-TX) in July is likely to see movement in the House. This bill would shorten the amount of time it takes to get disaster funding to those who need it and increase oversight on funding used.

## Action Step:

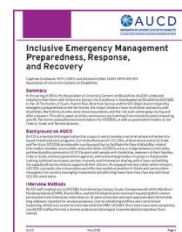
- Learn more about the bills at [www.disasterstrategies.org/](http://www.disasterstrategies.org/), <https://reaadi.com/>, and <https://nlihc.org/disaster-housing-coalition>.
- Contact both your Senators and Representative and ask them to support these bills to ensure people with disabilities and older adults will have full and equal access to disaster preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation.

## GAO FEMA Report

The Government Accountability Office recently released a report on FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) and the difficulties of supporting disaster-impacted disabled individuals.

### Action Steps:

- Read the report [here](#).
- Read AUCD's [white paper](#) on Inclusive Emergency Management Preparedness, Response, and Recovery.



This document was prepared by the Association of University Centers on Disabilities.

For more information, visit [www.aucd.org](http://www.aucd.org), or contact Policy Director Rylin Rodgers at [rrodgers@aucd.org](mailto:rrodgers@aucd.org).

## Additional Pending “Hot Congressional Topics:”

- HCBS Infrastructure Act
- Keeping all Students Safe Act
- Disability Integration Act
- Transformation to Competitive Employment Act



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