

Public Law 94-276
94th Congress

An Act

To amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to provide emergency relief, rehabilitation, and humanitarian assistance to the people who have been victimized by the recent earthquakes in Guatemala.

Apr. 21, 1976

[S. 3056]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That this Act may be cited as the "Guatemala Relief and Rehabilitation Act of 1976".

SEC. 2. Chapter 9 of part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new section:

"SEC. 495A. GUATEMALA RELIEF AND REHABILITATION.—(a) The President is authorized to provide assistance, on such terms and conditions as he may determine, for the relief and rehabilitation of the people who have been victimized by the recent earthquakes in Guatemala. There is authorized to be appropriated to the President to carry out the purposes of this section \$25,000,000 for the fiscal year 1976, which amount is authorized to remain available until expended, except that not more than \$4,000,000 of this amount shall be available for repairs to the Puerto Barrios highway in Guatemala. Assistance under this section shall be provided in accordance with the policy and general authority of section 491 of this Act. Obligations incurred prior to the enactment of this section against other appropriations or accounts for the purpose of providing relief and rehabilitation assistance to the people of Guatemala may be charged to the appropriations authorized under this section.

"(b) Assistance made available under this section shall be distributed to the maximum extent practicable through United States voluntary relief agencies and other international relief and development organizations.

"(c) In order to limit the extent of deaths, injuries, and destruction in future earthquakes, assistance provided under this section which is used for the construction of housing in the Republic of Guatemala shall, to the maximum extent possible, be used for housing which is constructed of seismic resistant materials or which will otherwise minimize the danger of injury to occupants during future earthquakes; and the President should encourage the Government of the Republic of Guatemala to promote the use of such materials.

"(d) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the amount authorized to be appropriated in subsection (a) of this section may be used only for the purposes specified in this section. The authority contained in section 610(a) of this Act may not be used to transfer funds made available under this section.

Guatemala Relief
and
Rehabilitation
Act of 1976.
22 USC 2292g
note.
22 USC 2292g.

22 USC 2292.

22 USC 2360.

Report to congressional committees.

“(e) Not later than sixty days after the date of enactment of appropriations to carry out this section, and at the end of each quarter thereafter, the President shall transmit a report to the Committees on Foreign Relations and Appropriations of the Senate and to the Speaker of the House of Representatives on the programing and obligations of funds under this section.”.

Approved April 21, 1976.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

HOUSE REPORTS: No. 94-891 accompanying H.R. 12046 (Comm. on International Relations) and No. 94-1009 (Comm. of Conference).

SENATE REPORT No. 94-679 (Comm. on Foreign Relations).

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 122 (1976):

Mar. 5, considered and passed Senate.

Mar. 22, considered and passed House, amended, in lieu of H.R. 12046.

Apr. 12, House agreed to conference report.

Apr. 13, Senate agreed to conference report.