



# Resilient Construction Coalition

## Participating Members

American Concrete  
Pipe Association

American Society of  
Civil Engineers

Association of  
Equipment Distributors

Concrete Reinforcing  
Steel Institute

Insurance Institute  
for Business & Home  
Safety

International Code  
Council

National Concrete  
Masonry Association

National Ready Mixed  
Concrete Association

National Stone, Sand &  
Gravel Association

Portland Cement  
Association

Prestressed/Precast  
Concrete Institute

Property Casualty  
Insurers Association of  
America

Silica Fume  
Association

Tiltup Concrete  
Association

## DISASTER SAVINGS AND RESILIENT CONSTRUCTION ACT – H.R. 3397

Representatives Tom Reed (R-23-NY) with Bill Pascrell (D-9-NJ), Mario Diaz-Balart (R-25-FL) and Peter DeFazio (D-4-OR) introduced legislation (H.R. 3397) that will help save money, reduce destruction and prevent the loss of lives in disaster-prone areas. The Disaster Savings and Resilient Construction Act of 2015 will provide a tax credit to home owners or building owners who use resilient construction techniques when building and renovating homes and commercial structures in federally declared disaster areas.

When a federal disaster is declared, taxpayers' dollars are used to help rebuild communities and cities around the country. As a result of Hurricane Sandy alone, Congress spent \$9.7 billion to cover insurance claims filed by people whose homes were damaged or destroyed by the storm, followed by a supplemental \$50.7 billion package, of which just \$3.4 billion will be offset by cuts to discretionary programs elsewhere. Investing in resilient construction during the rebuild will help limit the need for emergency funding in the future.

Resilient construction has the potential to substantially reduce property damage and loss of life resulting from all forms of natural disasters. In an example from Hurricane Ike, while all other homes in the surrounding area were totally destroyed, 10 of 13 resilient constructed homes in the path of the storm remained standing with minimal damage. The three houses that did not survive actually were destroyed by the impact of debris from traditionally built homes knocked off their foundations by the storm surge.

*The New York Times* reported 51-year old John K. Filipowicz and his 20-year old son were found dead in their home having been crushed by debris in the basement during Hurricane Sandy. A year earlier, NBC reported a 50-year old woman and her 3-year old granddaughter were killed in their home by a tornado. The girl's body was found buried under debris and all that was left of the house was its foundation.

In a recent simulated hurricane conducted at The Insurance Institute for Business and Home Safety (IBHS) test facility, the structure built with FORTIFIED<sup>®</sup> resilient construction techniques was able to withstand the simulated disaster, and the traditionally built structure was destroyed in 52 seconds.





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Source: <http://vimeo.com/17764719>  
 & <http://www.disastersafety.org/content/data/file/DisasterSafetyReview-2012-vol1-8.pdf>

## Economic Impact of Pre-disaster Mitigation

A CBO analysis has found that where federal dollars are spent on pre-disaster mitigation programs, "on average, future losses are reduced by about \$3 for every \$1 spent on those projects..."

Type of Project	Estimated Ratio of Loss Reduction to Cost
Floods	4.6
Earthquakes	0.9
Hurricanes/Tornadoes	4.7
Severe Storms	2.7
Mudslides/Landslides	5.6
Fires	5.1
Severe Ice Storms	2.4

Source: <http://www.cbo.gov/sites/default/files/cbofiles/ftpdocs/86xx/doc8653/09-28-disaster.pdf>

Fiscal Years (Millions of Dollars)						
2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2013-2017	2013-2022
[1]	[1]	[1]	-1	---	-2	-2

In addition, homeowners may be eligible for a reduction in insurance costs if their home utilizes resilient construction techniques. According to the *Alabama Press-Register*, an Alabama homeowner who retrofitted their home to meet resilient standards saw their annual insurance premiums reduced from \$3,488 to \$1,800 – a \$1,688 yearly savings to the homeowner.

Source: [http://blog.al.com/press-register-business/2011/11/fortified\\_homes\\_get\\_insurance.html](http://blog.al.com/press-register-business/2011/11/fortified_homes_get_insurance.html)

NOTE: Details do not add to totals due to rounding.

[1] Loss of less than \$500,000. Source: 2012 Joint Committee on Taxation Score

