



**H.Res. 657 - Expressing heartfelt sympathy for the victims of the devastating thunderstorms that caused severe flooding during August 2007 in the States of Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin, and for other purposes.**

**Floor Situation**

H.Res. 657 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative Timothy Walz (D-MN) on September 17, 2007, and has not been considered by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

H.Res. 657 is expected to be considered on the floor on October 1, 2007.

**Summary**

H.Res. 657 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- Expresses heartfelt sympathy for the victims of the devastating thunderstorms that caused severe flooding during August 2007 in the States of Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin;
- Conveys gratitude to the local, State, and Federal officials and emergency personnel who responded swiftly to the crisis, including emergency management teams in each of the affected States, Michael Chertoff, Secretary of Homeland Security, and David Paulison, Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency;
- Recognizes the generous and selfless support of citizens, local businesses, the American Red Cross, the United Way, Catholic Charities, and the Salvation Army; and
- Reaffirms support to helping the victims of the flooding rebuild their homes and lives.

**Background**

Severe thunderstorms caused flooding in parts of Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin during August 2007. The storms took the lives of 14 people, injured countless others, and damaged or destroyed thousands of homes and businesses.

President Bush declared 7 counties in Minnesota, 7 counties in Ohio, and 7 counties in Wisconsin to be major disaster areas. The Governors of Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Ohio,

and Wisconsin have declared several counties in their states to be in a state of disaster as a result of these storms.

**Cost**

H.Res. 657 has not been scored by the Congressional Budget Office.

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