To require the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to prescribe regulations to require states and localities to build a safe room in a federally funded construction project, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

June 14, 2013

Ms./Mr. XXX XXX of Xxx introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Xxx

A BILL

To require the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to require states and localities to build a safe room in a federally funded construction project, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Saving Lives with Safe Rooms Act of 2013”.

SEC. 2. REGULATIONS TO REQUIRE STATES AND LOCALITIES TO BUILD A SAFE ROOM IN A FEDERALLY FUNDED CONSTRUCTION.

(a) REGULATIONS REQUIRED- In the case of the construction of a public building (including those used for educational, recreational, governmental, or cultural purposes) located in AREA OF HIGH RISK for Tornadoes and/or Hurricanes, States and localities shall build in the construction a safe room, that shall—

(1) be of a size sufficient to accommodate, at a single time, all occupants of the construction in which the safe room is located, if the construction or improvement uses federal funds; and

(2) comply with standards for construction and safety as the Secretary, after consultation with the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, shall provide to ensure protection from during a storm or disaster.

(b) DEFINITIONS- In this section—

(1) SAFE ROOM- The term “safe room” means a room that is designed and constructed to resist hazards brought on by a storm or disaster and has the capacity to withstand destruction.
(2) CONSTRUCTION- The term “construction” includes new construction and reconstruction and rehabilitation and improvement.

(3) AREAS OF HIGH RISK – The term “areas of high risk” are those areas identified in Federal Emergency Management Agency guidelines, FEMA 320, Taking Shelter from The Storm: Building a Safe Room for Your Home or Small Business or FEMA 361, Design and Construction Guidance for Community Safe Rooms.