



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 6575**

*January Session, 2003*

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE'S CIVIL PREPAREDNESS FORCES AND REQUIRING AN EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PLAN.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 28-1 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3 As used in this chapter:

4 (a) "Attack" means any attack or series of attacks by an enemy of the  
5 United States causing, or which may cause, substantial damage or  
6 injury to civilian property or persons in the United States in any  
7 manner by sabotage or by the use of bombs, shellfire or atomic,  
8 radiological, chemical, bacteriological or biological means or other  
9 weapons or processes.

10 (b) "Major disaster" means any hurricane, storm, flood, high water,  
11 wind-driven water, tidal wave, tsunami, earthquake, volcanic  
12 eruption, landslide, mudslide, snowstorm, drought, fire, explosion, or  
13 other catastrophe in any part of this state which, in the determination  
14 of the President, causes damage of sufficient severity and magnitude  
15 to warrant major disaster assistance under the Federal Disaster Relief  
16 Act of 1974, above and beyond emergency services by the federal  
17 government, to supplement the efforts and available resources of this  
18 state, local governments thereof, and disaster relief organizations in  
19 alleviating the damage, loss, hardship, or suffering caused thereby.

20 (c) "Emergency" means any hurricane, tornado, storm, flood, high  
21 water, wind-driven water, tidal wave, tsunami, earthquake, volcanic  
22 eruption, landslide, mudslide, snowstorm, drought, fire, explosion, or  
23 other catastrophe in any part of this state which requires federal  
24 emergency assistance to supplement state and local efforts to save lives  
25 and protect property, public health and safety or to avert or lessen the  
26 threat of a disaster.

27 (d) "Civil preparedness" means all those activities and measures  
28 designed or undertaken (1) to minimize or control the effects upon the  
29 civilian population of major disaster, (2) to minimize the effects upon  
30 the civilian population caused or which would be caused by an attack  
31 upon the United States, (3) to deal with the immediate emergency  
32 conditions which would be created by any such attack, major disaster  
33 or emergency, and (4) to effectuate emergency repairs to, or the  
34 emergency restoration of, vital utilities and facilities destroyed or  
35 damaged by any such attack, major disaster or emergency. Such term  
36 shall include, but shall not be limited to, (A) measures to be taken in  
37 preparation for anticipated attack, major disaster or emergency,  
38 including the establishment of appropriate organizations, operational  
39 plans and supporting agreements; the recruitment and training of  
40 personnel; the conduct of research; the procurement and stockpiling of  
41 necessary materials and supplies; the provision of suitable warning  
42 systems; the construction and preparation of shelters, shelter areas and  
43 control centers; and, when appropriate, the nonmilitary evacuation of  
44 the civilian population; (B) measures to be taken during attack, major  
45 disaster or emergency, including the enforcement of passive defense  
46 regulations prescribed by duly established military or civil authorities;  
47 the evacuation of personnel to shelter areas; the control of traffic and  
48 panic; and the control and use of lighting and civil communication;  
49 and (C) measures to be taken following attack, major disaster or  
50 emergency, including activities for fire fighting; rescue, emergency  
51 medical, health and sanitation services; monitoring for specific hazards  
52 of special weapons; unexploded bomb reconnaissance; essential debris  
53 clearance; emergency welfare measures; and immediately essential

54 emergency repair or restoration of damaged vital facilities.

55 (e) "Civil preparedness forces" means any organized personnel  
56 engaged in carrying out civil preparedness functions in accordance  
57 with the provisions of this chapter or any regulation or order  
58 thereunder. All the police and fire forces of the state or any political  
59 subdivision of the state, or any part of any political subdivision,  
60 including all the auxiliaries of these forces, shall be construed to be a  
61 part of the civil preparedness forces. The Connecticut Disaster Medical  
62 Assistance Team and the Medical Reserve Corps, under the auspices of  
63 the Department of Public Health, the Connecticut Urban Search and  
64 Rescue Team, under the auspices of the Department of Public Safety,  
65 and the Connecticut Behavioral Health Regional Crisis Response  
66 Teams, under the auspices of the Department of Mental Health and  
67 Addiction Services and the Department of Children and Families, and  
68 their members, shall be construed to be a part of the civil preparedness  
69 forces while engaging in authorized civil preparedness duty or while  
70 assisting or engaging in authorized training for the purpose of  
71 eligibility for immunity from liability as provided in section 28-13 and  
72 for death, disability and injury benefits as provided in section 28-14.  
73 Any member of the civil preparedness forces who is called upon either  
74 by civil preparedness personnel or state or municipal police personnel  
75 to assist in any emergency shall be deemed to be engaging in civil  
76 preparedness duty while assisting in such emergency or while  
77 engaging in training under the auspices of the Office of Emergency  
78 Management or the state or municipal police department, for the  
79 purpose of eligibility for death, disability and injury benefits as  
80 provided in section 28-14.

81 (f) "Mobile support unit" means an organization of civil  
82 preparedness forces created in accordance with the provisions of this  
83 chapter to be dispatched by the Governor or state director of  
84 emergency management supplement civil preparedness forces in a  
85 stricken or threatened area.

86 (g) "Civil preparedness emergency" or "disaster emergency" mean

