CHECK LIST OF BILLS

Following are brief descriptions of bills drafted by Senator Bush on flood matters falling within the jurisdiction of the Committees on Public Works and Banking and Currency:

1. S.J. Res. To establish a Northeastern United States Watershed Development and Flood Protection Commission. The primary purpose of the proposed commission would be to integrate the work in this field carried on by diverse government agencies, and to serve as a gad-fly to stimulate action. Very many recommendations have been made; for example, the New York-New England Inter-Agency Committee (NENYIAC) has published a report of 40 volumes or more. The problem is to get plans off paper and into construction. The bill would also serve as a vehicle for proposed hearings by the Committee on Public Works. Note should be taken of the final section, viz: "Section 7. Nothing in this Act shall be construed so as to delay the prosecution of any flood control or related projects recommended by the Corps of Engineers, Department of the Army, and authorized by the Congress, or of any flood control projects now or hereafter undertaken under the authority of the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act of 1954."

2. S. To authorize the construction of additional flood control reservoirs in the Connecticut River basin. These are Cold River, New Hampshire, and Littleville, Massachusetts, the only two in the plan recommended by the Corps of Engineers before the floods which lack authorization. Additional authorizations may become necessary as a result of the restudy requested by the Senate Public Works Committee resolution of September 14th, but the recommendations of the Engineers must be awaited before bills can be drafted.

3. S. "Small Business Administration Catastrophe Loan Amendments of 1956". To increase maximum term of disaster loans to business to 20 years (now 10, renewable); and to strengthen sections of existing law relating to government procurement from small business in disaster situations.

4. S. To increase the amount of appropriations authorized for disaster loans, and for other purposes. This is intended to meet the problem created by the $25,000,000 limit in present law on total amount of outstanding disaster loans.

5. S. To provide for Federal procurement of materials and supplies in major disaster areas, and for other purposes.
To provide rent-free accommodations in certain Federally-aided housing for needy victims of major disasters, and for other purposes. "Victim" is defined to mean an individual and his dependents certified by the Red Cross as being in need due to the occurrence of a major disaster.

To authorize a stockpile of demountable housing for use in disaster areas.

To increase from $7,000 to $12,000 the limit on FHA-100% guaranteed loans for repair or restoration of flood-damaged or destroyed homes.

To authorize an increase in emergency relief highway funds from $10,000,000 to $30,000,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1956. The federal share of the repair bill on federal-aid highways is estimated at $18,000,000.
Mr. BUSH introduced the following joint resolution; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on

JOINT RESOLUTION

To establish a Northeastern United States Watershed Development and Flood Protection Commission.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMISSION

Section 1. (a) There is hereby established a commission to be known as the Northeastern United States Watershed Development and Flood Protection Commission (hereinafter referred to as the "Commission").

(b) The Commission shall be composed of 12 members as follows:

(1) Four appointed by the President of the United States, two from the executive branch of the Government and two from private life;

(2) Four appointed by the President of the Senate, two from the Senate (not more than one from any political party) and two from private life; and

(3) Four appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, two from the House of Representatives (not more than one from any political party) and two from private life.

(c) Any vacancy in the Commission shall not affect its powers, but shall be filled in the same manner in which the original appointment was made.

(d) Service of an individual as a member of the Commission or employment of an individual by the Commission as an attorney or expert in any business or professional field, on a part-time or full-time basis, with or without compensation, shall not be considered as service or employment bringing such individual within the provisions of section 261, 283, 284, 434, or 1911 of title 18 of the United States Code, or section 190 of the Revised Statutes (5 U. S. C. 99).

(e) The Commission shall elect a Chairman and a Vice Chairman from among its members.

(f) Seven members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum.

COMPENSATION OF MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION

Sec. 2. (a) Members of the Congress who are members of the Commission shall serve without compensation in addition to that received for their services as Members of Congress; but they shall be reimbursed for travel, subsistence, and other necessary expenses incurred by them in the performance of the duties
vested in the Commission.

(b) Members of the Commission who are in the executive branch of the Government shall serve without compensation in addition to that received for their services in the executive branch, but they shall be reimbursed for travel, subsistence, and other necessary expenses incurred by them in the performance of the duties vested in the Commission.

(c) The members of the Commission from private life shall each receive $50 per diem when engaged in the actual performance of duties vested in the Commission, plus reimbursement for travel, subsistence, and other necessary expenses incurred by them in the performance of such duties.

STAFF OF THE COMMISSION

Sec. 3. (a) The Commission shall have power to appoint and fix the compensation of such personnel as it deems advisable, without regard to the provisions of the civil service laws and the Classification Act of 1949, as amended.

(b) The Commission may procure, without regard to the civil service laws and the Classification Act of 1949, temporary and intermittent services to the same extent as is authorized for the departments by section 15 of the Act of August 2, 1946 (60 Stat. 810), but at rates not to exceed $50 per diem for individuals.

EXPENSES OF THE COMMISSION

Sec. 4. There are hereby authorized to be appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, such sums as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this joint resolution.

DUTIES OF THE COMMISSION

Sec. 5. (a) The Commission shall study the land and water resources of the northeastern section of the United States (including the States of Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont), and such other related matters as the Commission may deem appropriate in order to prepare recommendations for an integrated and comprehensive program for the development, use, and protection of such land and water resources, with special emphasis on protection against hurricanes and floods. With respect to the use of power produced or to be produced in whole or in part within the northeastern section of the United States the studies and recommendations of the Commission may extend to areas outside such section. In performing such study the Commission shall—
(1) consider and evaluate existing and proposed plans and programs for the development, protection, and use of such land and water resources;

(2) conduct in the northeastern section such on-the-site surveys and appraisals of land and water resources programs, and provide for the holding of such public hearings as it deems necessary and practicable with a view toward obtaining accurate and pertinent information and expressions of public sentiment of the inhabitants thereof;

(3) to the extent practicable, ascertain estimated costs and benefits of projects and programs;

(4) consult with appropriate State authorities with respect to the development, protection, and use of land and water resources in their respective areas within the northeastern section, and consult with the Connecticut River Valley Flood Control Commission and such other bodies and groups as may be appropriate;

(5) take into consideration the present and prospective economy of the northeastern section, the economic soundness of plans and programs for the development, protection, and use of its land and water resources, and the proper division of financial responsibility between the Federal Government and the States with respect to such plans and programs; and

(6) in view of the recent disastrous floods in the northeastern section, give necessary emphasis to prevention and control of inland and coastal flooding.

(b) The Commission may submit such interim reports at such time or times as it deems appropriate, and shall submit a final comprehensive report of its activities and the results of its studies to the Congress on or before January 1, 1958. The Commission shall cease to exist 30 days after the submission of such final report.

POWERS OF THE COMMISSION

Sec. 6, (a) The Commission or, on the authorization of the Commission, any subcommittee or member thereof, may, for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this joint resolution, hold such hearings and sit and act at such times and places, administer such oaths, and require, by subpoena or otherwise, the attendance and testimony of such witnesses and the production of such books, records, correspondence, memoranda, papers, and documents as the Commission or such subcommittee or member may deem advisable. Subpoenas may be issued under the signature of the Chairman of the Commission, of such subcommittee, or any duly designated member, and may be served by any person designated by
such Chairman or member. The provisions of sections 102 to 109, inclusive, of the Revised Statutes (2 U. S. C., secs. 192-199), shall apply in the case of any failure of any witness to comply with any subpoena or to testify when summoned under authority of this section.

(b) The Commission is authorized to secure directly from any executive department, bureau, agency, board, commission, office, independent establishment, or instrumentality of the Federal Government information, suggestions, estimates, and statistics for the purposes of this joint resolution; and each such department, bureau, agency, board, commission, office, establishment, or instrumentality is authorized and directed to furnish such information, suggestions, estimates, and statistics directly to the Commission, upon request made by the Chairman or Vice Chairman.

Section 7. Nothing in this Act shall be construed so as to delay the prosecution of any flood control or related projects recommended by the Corps of Engineers, Department of the Army, and authorized by the Congress, or of any flood control projects now or hereafter undertaken under the authority of the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act of 1954.
Mr. BUSH introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee.

A BILL

To authorize the construction of additional flood control reservoirs in the Connecticut River Basin.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the plan for the control of floods in the Connecticut River Basin, approved by the Act of June 22, 1936 (Public Law Numbered 738, Seventy-fourth Congress), as amended and supplemented, is hereby modified to provide for the construction, under the direction of the Secretary of the Army and the supervision of the Chief of Engineers, of the following reservoirs, substantially in accordance with the plans on file in the office of the Chief of Engineers, and the authorization for said basin is increased accordingly:

Cold River Reservoir, Cold River, New Hampshire, at an estimated cost of $7,273,000;

Littleville Reservoir, Middle Branch of Westfield River, Massachusetts, at an estimated cost of $4,030,000.
A BILL

To amend the Small Business Act of 1953

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 "Small Business Administration Catastrophe Loan Amendments of 1956."

SEC. 2. The proviso in section 207(b) of the Small Business Act of 1953 is amended as follows: "Provided, That no such loan, including renewals and extensions thereof, shall be made for a period exceeding twenty years or shall bear interest at a rate exceeding 3 per centum per annum;".

SEC. 3 (a) Section 207 of said Act is amended by inserting an additional subsection, as follows:

"(f) Whenever the President has determined under the Act entitled 'An Act to authorize Federal assistance to States and local governments in major disasters, and for other purposes', approved September 30, 1950, as amended (42 U.S.C., secs. 1855-1855g) that a major disaster has occurred, the Administration is hereby authorized and directed to make immediate use of the powers granted to it under the provisions of sections 207(b)(2) and (3), 208, 211, 212 and 213 in order to aid any small business concern or group of concerns that is a victim of any such major disaster."

(b) Section 211, of said Act is amended by inserting before the period at the end thereof the following: "; or (c) to be in the interest of aiding victims of floods or other catastrophes".
Mr. BUSH introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on

A BILL

To increase the amount of appropriations authorized for disaster loans, and for other purposes,

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 204 (b) of the Small Business Act of 1953 is amended (a) by striking out "§275,000,000" and inserting in lieu thereof "§300,000,000" each time it appears, and (b) by striking out the fifth and sixth sentences and inserting in lieu thereof the following: "Not to exceed an aggregate of §200,000,000 shall be outstanding at any one time for the purposes enumerated in sections 207(a) and (b)."
IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. Bush introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on

A BILL

To provide for Federal procurement of materials and supplies in major disaster areas, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That (a) The Defense Production Act of 1950 is amended by adding the following new sentence at the end of Section 2:

"Our mobilization effort further requires that certain areas which have been or may be afflicted by a major disaster, as such term is defined in the Act of September 30, 1950 (64 Stat. 1109) be rehabilitated and restored to normal condition as expeditiously as possible, in order to maintain a broad potential base for economic mobilization."

(b) Said Act is further amended by inserting the following as a new section and heading:

"SEC. 71H. DISASTER AREAS

"Upon the occurrence of a major disaster as defined in the Act of September 30, 1950 (64 Stat. 1109), in any area which in the opinion of the President is an important source of goods or services needed in the event of economic mobilization, he is hereby authorized and directed, notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, to arrange for immediate awards, to the maximum practicable extent, of negotiated contracts for procurement of materials or services needed by the Federal Government to victims of such major disaster capable of fulfilling such contracts in a satisfactory manner."

SEC. 2.(a) Section 3 of the Act to authorize Federal assistance to States and local governments in major disasters, and for other purposes, approved September 30, 1950 (64 Stat. 1109) is amended by striking out the word "and" before "(d)" the first time this symbol appears in the first sentence of said section, and by inserting a comma after "(d)" the second time said symbol appears in said sentence and adding the following after such comma: "And (e) by procuring from private enterprise
engaged in business in the area affected by such major disaster, by negotiated contract or otherwise, materials or services of use to the Federal government, in the opinion of the President;*

(b) Section 8 of said Act is amended by striking out "$5,000,000" and inserting in lieu thereof "$15,000,000".
IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. BUSH introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on

A BILL

To provide rent-free accommodations in certain Federally-aided housing for needy victims of major disasters, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That any provision of law to the contrary notwithstanding, no rent or other charge shall be demanded or received from any victim of a major disaster as defined in the Act of September 30, 1950, as amended (64 Stat. 1109, 65 Stat. 173, 67 Stat. 180) by reason of his occupancy of any housing accommodations controlled by any Federal, State or local authority, which was constructed or acquired by the Federal government or constructed, rehabilitated or acquired with any aid, direct or indirect, from the Federal government, whether in the form of grant or loan.

SEC. 2 (a) The President, through such officer or agency of the Government as he may designate, is authorized and directed to enter into a contract with each authority making housing accommodations available rent-free under the provisions of this Act providing, among other things, that (1) annual contributions will be made to such authority to the extent necessary to pay the pro rata share of operating expenses of the authority attributable to such rent-free occupancy of housing accommodations, and (2) any provision of law to the contrary notwithstanding, such authority may use for operating purposes during such occupancy and for the period immediately following termination of such occupancy, such sums available to it as may be required to pay the pro rata share of operating expenses attributable to such rent-free occupancy of housing accommodations.

(b) The faith of the United States is solemnly pledged to the payment of all annual contributions contracted for pursuant to this section, and there is hereby authorized to be appropriated in each fiscal year, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the amounts necessary to provide for such payments.

SEC. 3. As used in this Act, the word "victim" shall mean any person (including his dependents) certified by a duly accredited representative of the American National Red Cross as being in need due to the occurrence of a major
disaster within the meaning of that term as used in section 1 hereof and lacking sufficient financial means, considering his outstanding debts and future requirements for rehabilitation, to pay rent or other charges for housing during such period of emergency as may be set forth in such certificate.

SEC. 4. Whoever knowingly and wilfully violates any provision of this Act by demanding or receiving any rent or charge from any victim of a major disaster by reason of his occupancy of any such housing shall, upon conviction, be fined than $5000 or imprisoned not more than one year, or both.
IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. Bush introduced the following bill, which was read twice and referred to the Committee on ____________________________

A BILL

To provide authority to stockpile temporary housing for disaster relief, and for other purposes.

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 Temporary Housing Disaster Relief Stockpiling Act of 1956,

SEC. 2. One thousand units of temporary housing of a mobile or portable character provided by the Housing and Home Finance Administrator (hereinafter referred to as the Administrator) under the provisions of section 302(b) of the Defense Housing and Community Facilities and Services Act of 1951 that remains under his jurisdiction on the effective date of this Act and is not being used for other purposes shall be dismantled, stored and maintained in good condition in order to create a stockpile of such housing available for immediate use in the event of the occurrence of a major disaster within the meaning of the provisions of the Act of September 30, 1950, as amended (64 Stat. 1109, 65 Stat. 173, 67 Stat. 180).

SEC. 3. The Administrator shall arrange for storage of such housing at various locations throughout the continental United States, its territories and possessions, so situated as to permit expeditious transportation of such housing to the sites where it may be needed to provide housing in the event of a major disaster.

SEC. 4. Whenever the total number of units of temporary housing so stored is less than 1,000, the Administrator is authorized and directed to acquire in such manner as he deems advisable sufficient additional units of temporary housing to maintain the stockpile at 1,000 units.

SEC. 5. In selecting and acquiring housing under the provisions of this Act, the Administrator shall attempt to keep available at each storage point accommodations having from 1 to 3 bedrooms.

SEC. 6. In carrying out his functions under this Act, the Administrator may utilize the services of any other Federal agency with the consent of the head of such agency, or any other public or private organization, and provide reasonable compensation for such services.
SEC. 7. Any such temporary housing may be made available for emergency housing purposes as a measure of disaster relief in the event of a major disaster.

SEC. 8. No rent or other charge demanded or received from any victim of a major disaster who occupies such housing shall exceed a rate calculated to be sufficient to pay the cost of operating and maintaining the unit occupied and a proportionate share of operation and maintenance costs common to all units in the project in which such unit is located; Provided, however, that no rent or charge shall be demanded or received from any such victim during the effective period of a certificate issued in his favor by a duly accredited representative of the American National Red Cross to the effect that after reasonable investigation, the person named in the certificate has been found to be a victim of a major disaster lacking sufficient financial means, considering his outstanding debts and future requirements for rehabilitation, to pay rent or other charges for housing.

SEC. 9. The Administrator shall determine when such housing is no longer needed for disaster relief and shall thereupon dismantle and again store and maintain the housing in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 10. When, in the opinion of the Administrator, it is no longer advisable to maintain in storage a particular unit, he may dispose of it pursuant to applicable Federal law.

SEC. 11. Such sums as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act are authorized to be appropriated.
IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MR. BUSH introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on ____________________

A BILL

To amend the National Housing Act, as amended.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 203(h) of the National Housing Act, as amended, is hereby amended by striking out "$7,000" and inserting in lieu thereof "$12,000".

SEC. 2. Section 217 of said Act, as amended, is hereby amended by striking out "$4,000,000,000" and inserting in lieu thereof "$4,060,000,000".
IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MR. BUSH introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on ____________________________

A BILL

To authorize an increase of emergency relief highway funds from $10,000,000 to $30,000,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1956.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the amount of $10,000,000 authorized as an emergency relief fund by section 7 of the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1952 for the repair and reconstruction of highways and bridges on the Federal-aid highway systems which have suffered serious damage as a result of disaster over a wide area is hereby increased to the amount of $30,000,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1956. Such amount shall be available to pay the Federal share of the cost of emergency relief projects programmed for construction at any time during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1956.