



November 25, 2024

The Honorable Tom Cole, Chair  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro, Ranking Member  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Patty Murray, Chair  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Susan Collins, Vice Chair  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Cole, Chairwoman Murray, Ranking Member DeLauro, and Vice Chair Collins:

On behalf of the nation's state and local emergency managers, we wish to highlight the following priorities as you consider the administration's request for a disaster supplemental.

Appropriations:

1. Please provide the **Disaster Relief Fund** with enough funds to secure the account through the balance of FY25. The lingering threat of Immediate Needs Funding (INF) and delayed projects proves disruptive, and we hope you can end this cycle.
2. Please support the administration's request of \$2 billion for the **Small Business Administration loan program**. This program augments FEMA assistance and makes loans available for individuals and small businesses in affected areas. These loans empower disaster survivors to take control of their own recovery and are often the largest source of federal disaster recovery funds.
3. The inclusion of \$100 million in supplemental funding for the **Emergency Management Performance Grant** (EMPG) would go a long way toward bolstering the profession as we continue to manage response and recovery. Ongoing disasters and the expanding roles of emergency managers continue demonstrating the need for this program.
4. Please provide \$500,000 for the **Emergency Management Assistance Compact** (EMAC). Through Helene and Milton, EMAC coordinated 292 missions deploying 6,070 personnel. In total, 44 states and D.C. provided assistance, and there are still 1,629 personnel deployed. This additional funding will go to needed updates to the deployment system, conduct an after-action report, and implement recommended changes.

Policy Riders:

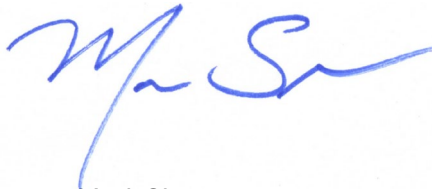
1. **The Disaster Management Cost Modernization Act** (S.3071/H.R.7671). Cleared by both the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee and House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, this bill represents the culmination of a six-year effort by our associations. It greatly reduces the complexity of providing disaster assistance and is [supported by a variety of stakeholders](#).
2. **The Disaster Assistance Simplification Act** (S.1528). This bill requires the administration to consolidate federal grant applications for disaster relief to disaster survivors into one, centralized application. This will relieve survivors from the burden of complex and protracted application processes. This, too, is [supported by a broad coalition](#).

We appreciate your consideration of these priorities as we all work toward providing the nation with the strongest possible emergency management system.

Sincerely,



Lynn Budd  
NEMA President



Mark Sloan  
BCEM Chairman



Carrie Speranza  
IAEM-USA President

cc: Senator Gary Peters, Chairman, Homeland Security & Governmental Affairs Committee  
Senator Rand Paul, Ranking Members, Homeland Security & Governmental Affairs Committee  
Representative Sam Graves, Chairman, Transportation & Infrastructure Committee  
Representative Rick Larsen, Ranking Members, Transportation & Infrastructure Committee