[INSERT EMA / AGENCY / OFFICIAL LETTERHEAD]

[INSERT DATE]

Dear [ELECTED OFFICIAL],

My name is [First Last], and I am the [Position and Agency]. I am contacting you to ask that you express support for and vote to restore all FEMA’s grant programs to full funding for FY25. The cuts enacted by the FY24 appropriations agreement for the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) will have lasting negative effects on the first responder, homeland security, emergency management program, as well as the citizens of our communities.

The Emergency Management Performance Grants (EMPG) funding reductions directly affect our ability to build and sustain a nationwide emergency management system. Congress must restore EMPG to at least FY23 funding levels of $355 million. In FY23, emergency managers handled at least 27,229 events at the state and local level without federal assistance, in addition to the 60 federal disaster declarations. This capability is largely due to the success of the EMPG program and the 50/50 match requirement despite the program already being underfunded by $100 million. The FY24 funding reductions will result in reduced capabilities when the nation is experiencing an increase in the number and severity of disasters.

In addition, the State Homeland Security Program (SHSP), Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI), and Non-Profit Security Grant Program (NSGP) work in harmony with one another to ensure state and local officials have the ability to assist in national preparedness efforts. During this time of heightened threats by nation-state actors, the FY24 reductions to these programs directly impede our ability to ensure the safety and security of our citizens. We ask that the funding levels for these three programs return to the FY23 levels of $601 million, $711 million, and $305 million, respectively.

I appreciate your attention to this matter and request your support for these programs throughout the FY25 appropriations cycle.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

[YOUR NAME]

[YOUR TITLE]

[YOUR COUNTY/CITY]