



September 20, 2022

The Honorable Peter A. DeFazio
Chair, House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
2165 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman DeFazio:

The International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM) is pleased to endorse the Real Emergency Access for Aging and Disability Inclusion for Disasters Act (REAAID Act).

IAEM appreciates Congressman Jim Langevin's steadfast and unwavering commitment to addressing the specific concerns and obstacles people with disabilities, older persons, and others with access and functional needs face before, during, and after disasters.

The bill directs FEMA, in consultation with disability advocates and professional emergency managers, to establish two grant programs...one for emergency preparation and hazard mitigation, and the other for research, training, and technical assistance.

IAEM urges speedy adoption of the REAAID Act, and our membership of professional emergency managers looks forward to helping develop and administer these much-needed grant programs and collaborating to apply the outcomes as operational improvements.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carolyn J. Harshman", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Carolyn J. Harshman, MPA, CEM
President, International Association of Emergency Managers