



February 9, 2021

The Honorable Peter DeFazio, Chairman  
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Sam Graves, Ranking Member  
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman DeFazio and Ranking Member Graves:

On behalf of the membership of the National Emergency Management Association (NEMA), International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM), and Big City Emergency Managers (BCEM), we wish to convey our full support for the \$50 billion included for the Disaster Relief Fund in the proposal to comply with the reconciliation directive included in section 2001 of the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget Fiscal Year 2021, S. Con. Res. 5.

The White House recently issued two memoranda adjusting Federal cost share to 100 percent for the Stafford declarations related to COVID response. These memoranda also clarified eligible activities which aid in our ability to effectively continue the response to this pandemic. The \$50 billion included for the Disaster Relief Fund will provide state and local governments the assurance that qualified emergency protective measures are reimbursed at 100 percent and fully funded through the end of the fiscal year. Furthermore, the infusion of these funds will ensure FEMA maintains the resources to continue supporting states and communities as we also respond to new and ongoing non-COVID disasters.

Thank you again for addressing this legislation swiftly, and ensuring we have the full force of FEMA behind us as we continue responding to COVID and the myriad other events across the nation.

Sincerely,

Sima Merick  
NEMA President

Judson Freed  
IAEM-USA President

Mark Sloan  
BCEM President