

# EMPG Request for Action and Talking Points

## Request for Action

Contact your Senators and your Member of Congress. If you don't know who your elected officials are, [click here](#) to find out.

If you have an existing relationship with your Senators or your Member of Congress or someone on their staff, call or email to let them know how important EMPG is to local emergency management.

If you don't have an existing relationship, call the state office of both of your Senators and the district office of your Member of Congress and ask to speak to the State or District Office Director.

Follow up your conversation with an email to thank them for taking your call and to reiterate the points you made during the call.

## What to Say and Ask For When You Speak To Staff

Start the conversation by introducing yourself followed by an explanation about what you do on a day-to-day basis to make your community safer. Use specific examples.

Let them know EMPG funds are absolutely essential to local emergency managers and their ability to plan for and respond to all hazards, both natural and man-made, in your community

The key thing to ask for...“Please ask Senator/Representative \_\_\_\_\_ to contact his/her colleagues on the Appropriations Committee to let them know he/she supports \$350 million for EMPG, the same amount the program has received since 2013.”

## EMPG Talking Points

As emergency managers, we strive daily to create and perfect systems of coordination and communication that save lives and minimize damage to property and infrastructure when our communities are struck by disaster.

Local emergency management agencies are at the center of our nation's preparation for, response to, and recovery from disasters large and small.

We are committed to creating a culture of preparedness that builds and sustains a disaster-resistant and resilient America.

Through EMPG, the federal government supports the development, evaluation, implementation, and administration of LOCAL Emergency Operations Plans in a manner that best suits the needs of each community and its unique set of disaster threats.

EMPG also helps states coordinate this support and assistance among counties, both within and across state lines, ultimately creating a national emergency management structure that helps to save lives and lessen the physical and financial impact of disasters.

Cuts to EMPG are shortsighted from a budgetary standpoint AND counterproductive to the goals of the National Preparedness System.