



PUBLIC POLICY

DISASTER RECOVERY

ACTION NEEDED:

Urge Congress to **SUPPORT** increased investment in mitigation programs such as the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program, the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program and other partnerships between local and federal governments to complete mitigation projects and increase resiliency to disasters.

Urge Congress to **SUPPORT** assistance for Hurricane Michael recovery, and efforts that will expedite the funding guidelines required for the CDBG-DR program.

Urge Congress to **OPPOSE** programmatic changes that would increase the local cost share for disaster recovery, such as implementation of a disaster deductible.

UPDATE:

Preparedness: July 2019 – Bipartisan bills in both the U.S. House and the U.S. Senate were introduced to reauthorize and reform NFIP. The bills are S. 2187 (sponsored by Senator Robert Menendez [D-N.J.]) and H.R. 3872 (sponsored by Rep. Frank Pallone, Jr. [D-N.J.]).

Key provisions of the bills include extending authorization of the program for five years to 2024, cap annual premium increases at 9%, provide \$400 million in annual funding for mapping, and expand coverage losses for residential properties from \$250,000 to \$500,000. The bills also create new preparedness programs such as the means-tested affordability program, the mitigation set-aside program, and two new mitigation loans.

Congresswoman Angie Craig (D-Minnesota) has also filed H.R. 3779 The Resilience Revolving Loan Fund Act of 2019. The bill would allow the Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) to provide flexible low-interest loans to local governments to invest early in disaster mitigation projects. These projects provide a new proactive approach to help local communities in minimizing catastrophes such as floods, wildfires, storm-surge, earthquakes, and chemical spills.

Disaster Recovery: On June 6, 2019, President Trump signed into law a \$19.1 billion disaster relief bill that included supplemental funds to address 2018 hurricanes, wildfires, flooding and other 2019 natural disasters. Among the funded programs is the Community Development Grant Program – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR). According to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) is scheduled to receive \$448 million from the CDBG-DR program. However, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has yet to issue its regulations for how the funds will be dispersed and utilized.

