HOW H.R. 4 AND DRRA BETTER PREPARE COMMUNITIES
FOR FUTURE DISASTERS: **FLOODING**

At some point, every community in America will face disaster. Fortunately, the Disaster Recovery Reform Act (DRRA) as included in H.R. 4 ensures that our communities nationwide will be better prepared.

Our goal in this bill is to protect our neighbors' lives and property and help them better recover from future disasters.

The best way to protect our communities is to prepare in advance. This bill increases our ability to prepare before disaster strikes.

The federal government will always be there in the wake of hurricanes and flooding to rescue those in danger and to help everyone put their lives back together.

I think we would all agree that money is better spent preventing and minimizing damage rather than recovering afterward.

And it costs less to prepare our communities than to help them recover. In general, every $1 spent on pre-disaster mitigation will save us $4 to $8 in costs avoided in recovery.

The DRRA helps prepare and protect our communities by:

• Increasing federal investment and focus on pre-disaster mitigation grants (Sec. 635) to fund projects such as:
   o Flood mitigation – for example:
      » Elevating existing structures
      » Flood-proofing hospitals, emergency operations and first responder bases of operations
      » Flood-reducing stormwater system improvements
      » Local flood reduction projects
      » Protecting utilities
      » Elevating vulnerable bridges and highways

• General provisions
   o Ensures improved planning and preparedness for special needs facilities such as nursing homes (Sec 607)
   o Gives local communities more control over their own recovery (Sec 606)
   o Ensures assistance supports individuals with disabilities (Sec 611)
   o Streamlines the process to apply for disaster assistance and makes the system more transparent for applicants (Sec. 622)
   o Clarifies and facilitates the ability of food banks and other relief organizations to assist disaster relief efforts (Sec 626)