



Doug Dodge, President
David Stamey, Vice-President
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August 8, 2025

Chairman Sam Graves
Ranking Member Rick Larsen
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
U.S. House of Representatives
2165 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Graves and Ranking Member Larsen:

On behalf of the Montana Emergency Managers Association (MEMA), we are writing to express our support for H.R. 4669, the Fixing Emergency Management for Americans (FEMA) Act of 2025. As the leading voice for emergency management professionals across our state, MEMA strongly believes this bipartisan legislation represents the most significant reform of FEMA and federal disaster assistance programs in decades.

MEMA applauds the Act's key provisions to restore FEMA's independence and cabinet-level status, ensuring direct accountability to the President and empowering the Administrator to coordinate a unified, government-wide disaster response. By streamlining federal programs, cutting unnecessary red tape, and rewarding effective state and local preparedness, H.R. 4669 will enable our communities to recover faster and more cost-effectively following disasters.

Montana's emergency managers regularly confront challenges posed by complex paperwork, permitting issues, conflicting timelines, and protracted reimbursement processes. The shift to faster, project-based grants will allow Montana to prioritize critical infrastructure repairs and mitigation efforts without resorting to costly loans or lengthy reimbursement waits. Likewise, enhanced flexibility for emergency housing and clearer, survivor-focused communication standards will directly benefit our rural and frontier communities.

"We have seen firsthand how cumbersome federal processes hinder our ability to serve Montanans in their time of need," said David Stamey. "This is a common-sense bill that fixes many of the problems we have encountered when having to deal with FEMA." MEMA's leadership team, including President Doug Dodge and Vice-president David Stamey, endorse this legislation as a crucial step toward a more responsive and effective emergency management system.

We urge you to prioritize H.R. 4669 and work swiftly to bring this bill to the House floor for a vote. MEMA stands ready to provide any additional information or testimony to support passage of this landmark reform. Thank you for your leadership on behalf of disaster-impacted communities across America.

Sincerely,

Doug Dodge
President, Montana Emergency Managers Association

David Stamey
Vice-President, Montana Emergency Managers Association