

April 25, 2018

The Honorable Paul Ryan
Speaker of the House
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
House Minority Leader
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Bill Shuster, Chairman
House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Peter DeFazio, Ranking Member
House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Speaker Ryan, Minority Leader Pelosi, Chairman Shuster, and Ranking Member DeFazio:

On behalf of the U.S. Council of the International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM), the National Emergency Management Association (NEMA), and the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC), we are writing to express our support for the Disaster Recovery Reform Act (DRRA). The House is currently considering this legislation as part of H.R. 4, the *FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018*. The DRRA will help our communities better prepare for, respond to, recover from, and mitigate against disasters of all kinds . . . a goal that those of us who wake-up every day to plan for and respond to disasters can and do wholeheartedly endorse.

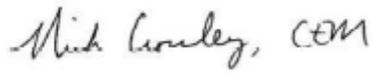
Of particular interest to our organizations is the bill's emphasis on pre-disaster planning and mitigation, which will reduce the future loss of life and the rising costs of disasters. Mitigation spending pales in comparison to money spent to respond once the damage is done. In fact, the National Institute for Building Standards recently released a study suggesting pre-disaster mitigation saves \$6 for every \$1 of investment.

Furthermore, the DRRA incentivizes better and smarter building and rebuilding to speed recovery efforts whenever and wherever disaster does strike. The federal government can and should encourage better building to save lives and taxpayer money in the future.

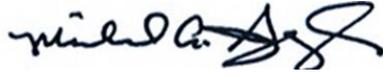
The Transportation and Infrastructure Committee should be commended for assuming a leadership role on these important issues and authoring the DRRA. We hope you will follow suit and seize this opportunity to see this effort through to its completion by ensuring the DRRA sees swift action with H.R. 4. We look forward to continuing working with Members of the House and Senate as this moves through the process and finalizing any necessary agreements to ensure final passage. The members of

the IAFC, IAEM, and NEMA thank you for your vision and leadership on this issue and look forward to working with the administration on implementing the DRRA.

Sincerely,



Nick Crossley, CEM
IAEM-USA



Mike Sprayberry
NEMA



Chief Thomas Jenkins
IAFC

