



## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

### FY18 Omnibus Appropriation

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**TO:** NEMA State Directors  
**FROM:** NEMA Legislative Committee  
**DATE:** March 21, 2018  
**SUBJECT:** FY18 Omnibus Appropriation

Earlier today, House and Senate Appropriators completed work on the omnibus appropriation bill for FY18. The bill combines all 12 regular Appropriations bills into one large package which will fund the Federal government through September 30, 2018. The 3-day review rule, self-imposed by House Republicans, will be waived. The House will vote on final passage Thursday with the Senate immediately following suit.

#### Department-Wide Summary

In total, the legislation directs \$47.7 billion in discretionary funding for DHS, an increase of \$5.3 billion above the fiscal year 2017 enacted level. The bill includes:

- \$4.4 billion above FY17 enacted levels for Customs and Border Patrol, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and the U.S. Coast Guard.
- \$1.9 billion for the National Protection and Programs Directorate to assist in critical infrastructure protection and cybersecurity to civilian Federal networks.
- Near-level funding to FY17 enacted levels for the Transportation Security Administration, U.S. Secret Service, and other department components.

#### Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

In total, \$4.4 billion is included for FEMA, \$342 million above the amount provided in FY17 and \$1.2 billion above the FY18 budget request. The Operations and Support account is largely level funded and includes language funding:

- \$35 million for **Urban Search and Rescue Teams**;
- \$9 million for the **National Dam Safety Program**;
- \$8.8 million for the National Earthquake Hazard Reduction Program (**NEHRP**); and,
- \$2 million for the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (**EMAC**).

The agreement includes multiple changes of note in the Federal Assistance (grants) account including:

- Increase of \$30 million for **Operation Stonegarden**
- Addition of **Non-Profit Security Grant Program** and \$10 million to the State Homeland Security Grant Program. This change expands eligibility of NPSGP to organizations outside those jurisdictions receiving Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) funds.
- Additional increase of \$25 million to NPSGP within the UASI account.
- \$149 million increase for **Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM)** and \$85 million for RiskMap.

## Disaster Relief Fund

The agreement funds \$81 million less than requested for the Base account of the Disaster Relief Fund. The Joint Explanatory Statement, not yet available, will hopefully provide more clarity on this move.

## Additional Provisions

- Provides an additional \$41 million to FEMA Federal Assistance to provide **reimbursement to local law enforcement** agencies assisting the U.S. Secret Service in New York and West Palm Beach.
- Amends **section 427(a) of the Stafford Act** by changing the reference to “telecommunications service” to “wirelines or mobile telephone service, Internet access service, radio or television broadcasting, cable service, or direct broadcast satellite service.”
- As has been included in the past, language prohibiting the use of a **Principle Federal Official**.
- Prohibits two **departmental reorganizations** until they are authorized by Congress. This includes the creation of the Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Office and renaming of NPPD to the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency.
- With a provision obviously targeted to a specific situation, the bill allows flood protection systems constructed in 2016 on property acquired with HMGP “in an inadvertent violation of the terms and conditions” of HMGP to remain in place.
- Includes a provision providing for funding of **wildland fires** without threatening the Stafford Act or Disaster Relief Fund. The provision makes fire suppression expenditures above 100 percent of the 10-year average from FY15 eligible for disaster assistance under the Disaster Cap Adjustment of the Budget Control Act.
- NPPD and FEMA are directed to brief Congress on the potential benefits and costs of establishing a **joint program office**.
- NPPD and FEMA are directed to brief Congress on the types of grant assistance, technical assistance, and formal ongoing engagement available to states and locals for **protecting cyber networks**.
- Requires FEMA to develop recommendations for **modifying the disaster declaration process** to better focus federal assistance on events during which state and local capabilities are truly overwhelmed or lives and property are at risk. Directs inclusion of an assessment of the suitability of the per capita indicator, consideration of severe local impacts of disasters, FEMA's ongoing analysis of the disaster deductible model, and any other policy changes FEMA is considering.

## Useful Links

[The entirety of the 2,232 page, \\$1.3 trillion bill](#)

[The Joint Explanatory Statement for DHS](#)

**FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY  
Summary**

<i>(in millions)</i>	<b>FY17</b>	<b>FY18</b>
<b>Operations &amp; Support</b>	<b>1,048</b>	<b>1,030</b>
<b>Federal Assistance</b>	<b>2,983</b>	<b>3,294</b>
State Homeland Security Grant Program	467	507
<i>Operation Stonegarden</i>	(55)	(85)
<i>Non-Profit Security Grant Program</i>	(0)	(10)
Urban Area Security Initiative	605	630
<i>Non-Profit Security Grant Program</i>	(25)	(50)
Public Transportation Security Assistance	100	100
Port Security	100	100
Assistance to Firefighters (SAFER/AFG)	690	700
Emergency Management Performance Grants (EMPG)	350	350
Predisaster Mitigation Grant Program (PDM)	100	249
RiskMAP	178	263
Emergency Food & Shelter	120	120
Training & Exercises	274	275
<i>Center for Domestic Preparedness</i>	(64)	(64)
<i>Center for Homeland Defense and Security</i>	(18)	(18)
<i>Emergency Management Institute</i>	(21)	(21)
<i>U.S. Fire Academy</i>	(42)	(43)
<i>National Domestic Preparedness Consortium</i>	(101)	(101)
<i>Continuing Training</i>	(8)	(8)
<i>National Exercise Program</i>	(20)	(20)
<b>Disaster Relief Fund (DRF)</b>	<b>7,329</b>	<b>7,901</b>
Base Disaster Relief	616	535
Disaster Cap Adjustment	6,713	7,366

This summary is provided courtesy of the NEMA Legislative Committee. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact the following NEMA staff:

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