



## THIS WEEK IN WASHINGTON:

### Party Primaries Begin Race to Midterms

Election season is certainly upon us as various states have begun their midterm election primaries this week. As you well know, the election dynamic always impacts our policy priorities inside the Beltway. NEMA is working closely with Committee staff in a race to close-out some issues prior to the August Recess. After that, there will be a huge break in action until after the November mid-terms at which point it's anyone's guess as to how the year will end. By all accounts (including the proverbial writing on the wall) Appropriations will be one of the first victims. Brace yourself for continuing resolutions well into the New Year.

On Thursday, the Senate passed an additional \$40 billion in aid to Ukraine after stalling momentarily last week. This package, which passed with an 86-11 vote, would continue providing weapon transfers, government funding, and humanitarian aid.

On Wednesday, DHS Secretary Mayorkas asked DHS's Homeland Security Advisory Council to launch a review into the Disinformation Board that was recently announced by the Department. Disinformation expert Nina Jankowicz has also resigned after a poor reception of the Board she was tasked with leading.

Jankowicz wasn't the only appointee casualty this week. Nominations for [Alice Hill](#) (FEMA Deputy Administrator for Resilience) and William Valdez (DHS Under Secretary for Management) were withdrawn by the administration for consideration in the Senate.

At the beginning of the week, House Homeland Security Committee Chair Thompson (D-MS) announced the House passed three bipartisan homeland security measures, including the Nonprofit Security Grant Program Improvement Act of 2022 ([H.R. 6825](#)), to expand and strengthen the homeland security grant program that help secure nonprofits and houses of worship against terrorism.

#### Hearings the Week of May 23, 2022

[Climate Smart From Farm To Fork: Building An Affordable And Resilient Food Supply Chain](#)

House Select Committee on the Crisis  
Tuesday, May 24, 2022 at 12:00pm ET

[Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Request for the Federal Emergency Management Agency](#)

House Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Homeland Security  
Wednesday, May 25, 2022 at 11:00am ET

\*FEMA Administrator Criswell will be testifying

[Reauthorization and Reform of the National Flood Insurance Program](#)

House Committee on Financial Services  
Wednesday, May 25, 2022 at 12:00pm ET

*More News from the Nation's Capital...*

#### GAO Release New Report on Disaster Resilience

On Tuesday, GAO released a new report that discusses GAO reports issued from 2015 through 2021 on disaster preparedness and resilience. This includes FEMA's National Preparedness System and associated grants; hazard mitigation grant programs; and GAO's Disaster Resilience Framework for identifying opportunities to enhance resilience.

While this report does not provide additional recommendations into steps FEMA needs to take to increase National Preparedness, this report does go over progress that has been made from various previous reports.

The full report can be found [here](#), and a one-page summary [here](#).

#### FEMA ICPD to Host HSGP Webinars Next Week

After recently adding the new "Enhancing Community Preparedness and Resilience" National Priority Area (NPA) for the Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP), FEMA Individual and Community Preparedness Division and Preparedness Grants Division will be hosting multiple webinars on the HSGP and what this new NPA will mean for the program.

ICPD Director Aaron Levy and PGD Deputy Director Ginny Warren will present on:

- How to use the HSGP to effectively mitigate DHS concerns on terrorism;
- Guidance on meeting requirements for the "Enhancing Community Preparedness and Resilience" National Priority Areas; and
- Additional guidance on how to submit a strong application for the HSGP.

FEMA will host three webinars, dates and times listed below. The webinars are free, but registration is required.

- HSGP Webinar 1 (East): May 24 @ 9:30a.m.-10:30a.m. ET - Register [here](#)
- HSGP Webinar 2 (Central): May 25 @ 3:00p.m.-4:00p.m. ET - Register [here](#)
- HSGP Webinar 3 (West): May 26 @ 5:30p.m.-6:30p.m. ET - Register [here](#)

#### CISA & MS-ISAC Release Joint Cybersecurity Advisory

On Wednesday, CISA and MS-ISAC released a joint Cybersecurity Advisory (CSA) in response to active exploitation of CVE-2022-1388. This recently disclosed vulnerability in certain versions of F5 Networks, Inc., (F5) BIG-IP enables an unauthenticated actor to gain control of affected systems via the management port or self-IP addresses.

Due to previous exploitation of F5 BIG-IP vulnerabilities, CISA and MS-ISAC assess that unpatched F5 BIG-IP devices are an attractive target and that organizations that have not applied the patch are vulnerable to actors taking control of their systems.

The full advisory can be found on the [CISA website](#).

#### FEMA Announces Dam Safety Grant Opportunities

On May 16, FEMA released the Fiscal Year 2022 Rehabilitation of High Hazard Potential Dam (HHPD) grant program Notice of Funding Opportunity.

The grant program provides technical, planning, design and construction assistance in the form of grants for the rehabilitation of eligible high hazard potential dams. Eligible applicants must be eligible subrecipients, which include non-federal governments and non-profit organizations.

In Fiscal Year 2022, the High Hazard Potential Dam grant program is being allocated \$22 million to continue the program. Of the total funding, \$11.64 million will be available for planning and design activities and \$10.36 million will be available for construction-ready activities only.

Another approximate \$11 million is available through the Dam Safety State Assistance Grant Program, bringing the total of available grant funding to \$33 million.

FEMA is offering informational webinars for interested applicants to provide an overview of this year's two dam safety funding opportunities. Registration information for all upcoming webinars will be provided soon.

*Other News from DC and Around the Country:*

The Hill: [DHS to Pause Work of Disinformation Board](#)

Route Fifty: [Ransomware Attacks on Hospitals Put Patients at Risk](#)

HSToday: [The Broken Message: How Emergency Alerts Miss the Americans Who Need Them Most](#)

HSToday: [Terrorist and Extremist Chants Targeted in SoundCloud Action](#)

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