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July 10, 2023

FY24 House Appropriations Mark Release

Before leaving for their respective districts last week, the House Appropriations Committee completed their work on a funding bill for the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) through Fiscal Year 2024 (FY24), ending September 30, 2025. The Senate is currently working on their versions of the same spending bills. They are working under draft allocations but proceeding with drafting bill and report language. As a sign of things to come, House leadership is already discussing the possibility of completing a Continuing Resolution (CR) in July, well before the September 30 deadline for funding decisions. While unusual, this move would be helpful to FEMA and the DRF as the fund is dwindling perilously low on funding and a CR would provide a full year of funding for the account.

DHS-Wide Summary

The bill includes \$91.515 billion in total discretionary appropriations for DHS, including \$62.793 billion within the bill's allocation, \$5.837 billion in discretionary appropriations offset by fee collections, and \$20.261 billion as an allocation adjustment for the Disaster Relief Fund (DRF). The total, within the allocation, is \$2.090 billion above the FY23 level. Highlights include:

- A major focus on the Southwest Border including \$2 billion for the border wall; \$496 million for more Border Patrol Agents; and \$276 million in border security technology.
- \$3.5 billion for custody operations and \$655 million to fund transportation and removal operations.
- "Bolsters national security" through \$335 million for more Coast Guard Fast Response Cutters and \$150 million toward the polar icebreaker.
- Rescinds \$312 million for climate change activities in the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022.

Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA)

The bill and report includes \$2.926 billion for CISA, which is \$19.2 million above FY23 and \$130 million below the request.

- \$810.8 million for cyber operations, including vulnerability management, capacity building, and threat hunting.
- Restores cuts proposed in the President's Budget of \$9.5 million for bombing prevention and \$3.6 million for the School Safety program.
- \$33.5 million reduction to redundant or duplicative programs.
- Report language requires CISA and FEMA to annually provide a publicly available accounting of all grant funding provided by CISA over the three previous fiscal years.
- The Committee directs CISA to assess the value of pursuing a pilot program to enhance the capacity of SLTT government jurisdictions to conduct consistent, replicable infrastructure security and resilience activities, including security vulnerability or terrorism risk assessments of critical infrastructure facilities.

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

The bill provides \$26.063 billion, which is \$390.1 million above FY23 and \$179.9 million above the request. A breakdown of the significant language includes:

Grants

- A chart outlining funding levels for all the grant programs is included with this summary.
- Includes language reinforcing that **school hardening** measures are eligible activities under SHSP and UASI. Specific activities mentioned includes bullet resistant doors and glass; hinge-locking mechanisms; immediate notification to emergency 911 systems; mechanisms that provide real time, actionable intelligence directly to law enforcement and first responders; installation of distraction devices or other countermeasures administered by law enforcement; and other measures determined to provide significant improvement to school physical security.
- The following language is included regarding recent increases in the **Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Activities (LETPA)** set-aside: "...The Committee notes that law enforcement, emergency management, fire, emergency medical services, public health, and public works all play a vital role in prevention activities. The Committee is concerned that the continued increase in the LETPA set-aside runs the risk of crowding out resources for critical multidisciplinary preparedness and response efforts. Prior to making grant funds available for fiscal year 2024, the Committee urges FEMA to consult with all interested stakeholders in communities across the country to ensure priority investment areas align with state and local efforts to further national preparedness and do not duplicate investments made through other federal grant programs."
- Report language includes a requirement for FEMA to provide an analysis of the impacts of the **Nonprofit Security Grant Program** including "tangible results demonstrating how the program has improved preparedness and reduces the risk of terrorist of other extremist attacks."
- The bill includes no funds for EFSP-H nor SSP for FY24. Prior to making funds available for the traditional EFSP program for fiscal year 2024, FEMA is directed to consult with the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations and the EFSP National Board on revised reporting procedures to ensure FEMA and Congress receive timely information to facilitate effective oversight and better inform future funding decisions.

Resilience

- The Committee demonstrates clear frustration at the inability of FEMA to **adequately define "resilience."** This is compounded by a lack of transparency in the agency's ongoing Resilience reorganization. FEMA is directed to become fully compliant with the DRRRA requirement to define resilience within 30 days of enactment of the appropriations bill.

Preparedness & Protection

- Includes not less than \$2 million for the **Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC)**.
- Directs FEMA to take steps to ensure emergency alerts can be accessed by **limited English proficiency** individuals.
- Reinforces already-passed legislation requiring FEMA to establish a working group of experts to review and recommend best practices and federal guidance on **the needs of household pets**, service and assistance animals, and captive animals, as appropriate, in emergency and disaster preparedness, response, and recovery.

Response & Recovery

- The Committee urges FEMA to work with state emergency managers to ensure states have the infrastructure in place to support **rural community recovery teams** following a disaster and to make disaster case workers available to residents should Individual Assistance be denied.
- The Committee encourages FEMA to consider including in its update to **Recovery Interim Policy FP-104-009-11** widely used standards utilized by the plumbing, mechanical, and electrical industry, including plumbing, mechanical and electrical codes approved as American National Standards by the American National Standards Institute.

Disaster Relief Fund

The Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) is fully funded per the administration's FY24 request. This includes \$20.261 billion for disaster response and \$145 million for the Base side of the DRF.

Helpful Links

[Bill Language](#)

[Committee Report Language](#) (List of Congressionally Directed Spending begins on page 101)

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY			
(in millions)	FY23 Enacted	FY24 Request	FY24 House
Operations & Support	1,380	1,509	1,521
Procurement, Construction, and Improvements	208	119	119
Federal Assistance	3,882	3,564	3,742
State Homeland Security Grant Program	520	601	530
Operation Stonegarden	(90)	(90)	(100)
Tribal Homeland Security Grants	(15)	(15)	(15)
Urban Area Security Initiative	615	711	615
Non-Profit Security Grant Program	305	360	315
Public Transportation Security Assistance	105	100	105
Port Security	100	100	100
Assistance to Firefighters (SAFER/AFG)	720	740	720
Emergency Management Performance Grants (EMPG)	355	355	355
RiskMAP	313	350	313
Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grants	12	12	12
Emergency Food & Shelter	130	130	13
Next Generation Warning System	56	0	40
Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending^	335^	0	181^
Alternatives to Detention Case Management (by transfer)	(20)	(15)	0
Targeted Violence and Terrorism Prevention (by transfer)	(20)	(20)	0
Shelter and Service Program (by transfer)	(800)	(84)	0
Training & Exercises	316	316	326
Center for Domestic Preparedness	(71)	(72)	(72)
Center for Homeland Defense and Security	(18)	(18)	(18)
Emergency Management Institute	(31)	(33)	(33)
U.S. Fire Academy	(58)	(60)	(60)
National Domestic Preparedness Consortium	(101)	(101)	(106)
Continuing Training	(16)	(12)	(17)
National Exercise Program	(21)	(21)	(21)
Disaster Relief Fund (DRF)	19,945	20,406	20,406
Base Disaster Relief	0*	(145)	(145)
Disaster Cap Adjustment	19,945	(20,261)	(20,261)
Rescission of Prior Year Funds	(0)	(0)	(0)

* Utilizes carryover balances from previous year
 ^ Detailed list sent under separate cover

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

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