



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

FY19 Appropriation – Senate

TO: NEMA State Directors
FROM: NEMA Legislative Committee
DATE: June 25, 2018
SUBJECT: FY19 Appropriation - SENATE

Last week, the Senate Appropriations Committee completed work on the Senate version of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) budget for FY19 ending September 30, 2019. The House has not yet acted on their version of the FY19 appropriation. This memo summarizes the Senate bill (S. 3109) and report (115-283)

Department-Wide Summary

The Senate mark provides a discretionary total of \$55.151 billion for DHS, an increase of \$611 million over FY18 enacted and \$900 million above the President's request. The bill includes:

- \$148 million across several components to combat the flow of opioids. These funds will deploy detection technology and seek to improve interdiction at ports of entry and mail facilities.
- Increases over FY18 for Customs and Border Patrol (\$239 million), Immigration and Customs Enforcement (\$135 million), the Transportation Security Administration (\$177 million), and Secret Service (\$173 million).
- Due to a massive investment in shipbuilding last year, the Coast Guard receives a slight decrease of \$173 million, though \$750 million is included for the construction of a new icebreaker.
- The Committee did not approve the proposed Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction office, but instead included language allowing the transfer of funds should Congress pass authorizing language.
- FEMA (\$21 million), the National Protection and Programs Directorate (\$13 million), and Science and Technology Directorate (\$28 million) all take reductions from FY18 levels.

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

In total, \$11.69 billion is included for FEMA, of which \$7.23 billion is for the Disaster Relief Fund (DRF). When considering non-disaster funding, FEMA is funded at \$96 million above FY18. The Operations and Support account closely resembles FY18 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,
- While the \$2 million for the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (**EMAC**) is not specified in the Senate report, it was included in the budget request.

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

- A \$5 million increase for **Operation Stonegarden**. This is in addition to the \$30 million increase in FY18.
- Maintains the \$10 million carve-out started in FY18 of the State Homeland Security Grant Program for **Non-Profit Security Grant Program**. This continues the expanded eligibility of NPSGP to organizations outside those jurisdictions receiving Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) funds.
- Eliminates the FY18 increase of \$25 million to NPSGP within the **Urban Area Security Initiative** (UASI) account.
- Revives the **Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grants** and recommends \$15 million (not funded since 2011). FEMA is directed to prioritize funding for new or existing working groups, synchronization of plans and shared best practices, community preparedness campaigns, and pre-positioning of commodities.
- Begins a new **Rehabilitation of High Hazard Potential Dams** program and recommends \$15 million.

Disaster Relief Fund

The bill recommends \$7.234 billion for the Disaster Relief Fund, \$6.652 billion of which is Major Disaster Declarations. Of concern for emergency managers is the three *transfers* out of the DRF utilized to fund other programs (details below). The bill also ends the practice of transferring \$24 million from the DRF to the Office of Inspector General to conduct disaster-related audits.

Additional Provisions

- **Transfers \$300 million** of “unobligated balances from prior year appropriations” from the DRF to make available funds not included in the overall allocation for the bill:
 1. \$72 million for Procurement, Construction, and Improvements for the department’s Management Directorate.
 2. \$150 million to sustain the FY18 increase of the Predisaster Mitigation (PDM) grant program, and;
 3. \$78 million to sustain the FY18 increase for RiskMap.
- Directs FEMA to develop criteria and process for ensuring states and locals improve participation in the **Integrated Public Alert and Warning System** (IPAWS).
- To dovetail a requirement included in the FY18 Omnibus, in addition to FEMA being required to brief the Committee on policy changes under consideration related to the **criteria used in determining a declaration**, FEMA is also instructed to include data such as local assessable tax base, local sales tax, median income, poverty rate of the affected area, economy of the state, and other factors such as unemployment.
- Provides \$3 million to FEMA for continued administration of the **Disaster Assistance Direct Loan Program** (funded in the supplemental for FY18).
- 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.

Useful Links

[Bill Language; S. 3109, FY19 Appropriations for DHS](#)

[Report Language; 115-283; FY19 Appropriations for DHS](#)

**FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY
Summary**

<i>(in millions)</i>	FY18 Enacted	FY19 Senate
Operations & Support	1,030	1,054
Federal Assistance	3,294	3,273
State Homeland Security Grant Program	507	512
<i>Operation Stonegarden</i>	(85)	(90)
<i>Non-Profit Security Grant Program</i>	(10)	(10)
Urban Area Security Initiative	630	605
<i>Non-Profit Security Grant Program</i>	(50)	(25)
Public Transportation Security Assistance	100	100
Port Security	100	100
Assistance to Firefighters (SAFER/AFG)	700	700
Emergency Management Performance Grants (EMPG)	350	350
Predisaster Mitigation Grant Program (PDM)	249	250*
RiskMAP	263	250*
Emergency Food & Shelter	120	100
Training & Exercises	275	276
<i>Center for Domestic Preparedness</i>	(64)	(66)
<i>Center for Homeland Defense and Security</i>	(18)	(18)
<i>Emergency Management Institute</i>	(21)	(21)
<i>U.S. Fire Academy</i>	(43)	(44)
<i>National Domestic Preparedness Consortium</i>	(101)	(101)
<i>Continuing Training</i>	(8)	(8)
<i>National Exercise Program</i>	(20)	(18)
Disaster Relief Fund (DRF)	7,901	7,234
Base Disaster Relief	535	582
Disaster Cap Adjustment	7,366	6,652

*Includes transfer of "unobligated balances from prior year appropriations" from the DRF

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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