

September 8, 2020

Honorable Maxine Waters, Chairwoman
House Financial Services Committee
Washington, DC 20515



Honorable Patrick McHenry, Ranking Minority Member
House Financial Services Committee
Washington, DC 20515

Honorable Nita Lowey, Chairwoman
House Appropriations Committee
Washington, DC 20515

Honorable Kay Granger, Ranking Minority Member
House Appropriations Committee
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Imminent Lapse of the National Flood Insurance Program

Dear Chairwoman Waters, Ranking Member McHenry, Chairwoman Lowey, and Ranking Member Granger:

The member companies of the National Flood Association (NFA) thank you for the opportunity to provide input to the House Financial Services Committee and the House Appropriations Committee about the importance of reauthorizing the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) as the Committees prioritize their work for the coming weeks during this historic time for the country. The NFA respectfully calls your attention to this looming concern for many families, businesses and communities affected by both the pandemic and potential flood disasters.

A highly active hurricane season thus far brings real concern to families and businesses already facing financial hardships due to the ongoing pandemic. **With a short-term extension of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) only through September 30, the NFA urges the Committee to take action to ensure the extension or reauthorization of the NFIP in order to reassure families and businesses that needed flood insurance will be there when the storm comes.** Each year hundreds of thousands face the daunting reality of recovering from a catastrophic flood without flood insurance. The NFA believes Congress must act to ensure that NFIP flood insurance can be purchased and that the more than 5 million policyholders can renew existing flood insurance policies.

The NFA includes dozens of companies, with thousands of employees, serving millions of customers, representing various industries such as flood determination companies, private and federal flood insurance, financial services, real estate, claims adjusting, engineering, risk modeling, mapping, reinsurance, and management consulting. **This diverse body urges your attention to ensuring this critical program does not lapse especially at a time in which families and businesses are at risk financially.**

We thank you and your Committee Members for your important work and for allowing us the opportunity to provide our recommendations to guide your efforts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cheryl A. Small".

Cheryl Small, Executive Director
National Flood Association