

September 8, 2020

Honorable Mike Crapo, Chairman
Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
Washington, DC 20510

Honorable Sherrod Brown, Ranking Minority Member
Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
Washington, DC 20510

Honorable Richard Shelby, Chairman
Senate Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20510

Honorable Patrick Leahy, Ranking Minority Member
Senate Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20510



Re: Imminent Lapse of the National Flood Insurance Program

Dear Chairman Crapo, Ranking Member Brown, Chairman Shelby, and Ranking Minority Member Leahy:

The member companies of the National Flood Association (NFA) thank you for the opportunity to provide input to the Senate Banking Committee and the Senate 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 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 cursive script that reads "Cheryl A. Small".

Cheryl Small, Executive Director
National Flood Association