## Congress of the United States

House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515–1803

April 19, 2021

The Honorable Lucille Roybal-Allard Chairwoman Subcommittee on Homeland Security 2006 Rayburn HOB Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Chuck Fleischmann Ranking Member Subcommittee on Homeland Security 2006 Rayburn HOB Washington, DC 20515

Chairwoman Roybal-Allard and Ranking Member Fleischmann,

As you consider the fiscal year 2022 Homeland Security Appropriations Bill, I encourage you to continue robust funding for the following FEMA programs that support disaster survivors:

**Disaster Unemployment Assistance** provides unemployment benefits and reemployment assistance services to disaster survivors for up to 26 weeks post-disaster declaration for those who are not eligible for regular state unemployment insurance.

Individuals and Households Program Assistance provides aid to individuals who have lost their homes from a presidentially declared disaster. This program also helps with childcare, medical expenses, or clean-up efforts.

Crisis Counseling Assistance and Training Program aids disaster-impacted individuals and communities after major disasters through community-based outreach services such as crisis counseling, psychoeducation, development of coping skills, and access to appropriate resources.

Mass Care and Emergency Assistance provides services before and during the immediate response to a disaster such as shelter, food, emergency supplies, support for those with disabilities, pet support, and mass evacuee services.

**Disaster Case Management** provides case management for disaster survivors and arranges disaster recovery plans for disaster survivors.

**Disaster Legal Services** provides legal aid to survivors affected by a presidentially declared major disaster for low-income households to protect insurance claims for health, property, and life, reproduction of legal documents lost in the disaster, help with repairs, preparation of powers of attorney and guardianship materials, and FEMA appeals.

Southwest Louisiana has faced a year of turmoil and destruction. As the state sorts through the economic failure of COVID-19 and two major hurricanes, Laura and Delta, these FEMA programs are essential to recovery. Thank you for your consideration of my request for continuing funds for FEMA Disaster Programs in the fiscal year 2022 Homeland Security Appropriations Bill.

Respectfully,

Clay Higgins

Member of Congress