

Extreme Weather Survivors Action Fund

February 11th, 2026

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Senate Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Minority Leader Schumer,

We are 93 organizations supporting disaster survivors, working for climate resilience, and/or working in communities impacted by floods, wildfires, hurricanes, extreme heat, winter storms, and other disasters. We are writing to urge Senate Democratic leadership to stop the flow of funds to DHS, including through continuing resolutions, until meaningful changes are enacted that will bring an end to the violence and abuse carried out by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and Customs and Border Protection (CBP). Furthermore, disaster survivors and FEMA should not be treated as political leverage in broader fights over DHS funding.

As organizations dedicated to helping Americans prepare for, respond to, and recover from extreme weather and disasters, we have expressed ongoing concerns about how FEMA has been utilized in recent years and the resulting challenges this has created for the agency's ability to serve communities effectively. In the context of current pressures facing American cities and communities, we are particularly concerned about the combined effects of DHS immigration enforcement policies, which may further strain disaster recovery efforts and affect community safety and trust. Survivors should never be forced to choose between safety from disaster impacts and safety from unlawful actions by federal agents. Unfortunately, DHS's actions have forced more and more Americans to face this dilemma.

We want to be clear: protecting FEMA's mission is essential, and concerns about FEMA funding should not be used to justify continued funding for DHS without significant reform. FEMA currently has nearly \$27 billion available and a workforce capable of maintaining essential operations, even during federal funding disruptions. Yet, lifesaving recovery and resilience projects are being delayed due to opaque internal

approval processes, leaving disaster-impacted communities stuck in prolonged displacement and facing higher long-term costs. Congress can and should fix this by restoring FEMA as a transparent, efficient, and independent agency outside of DHS's control so that its lifesaving mission is no longer obstructed or politicized. Moreover, Congress has a clear alternative to fund disaster recovery. It can, and must, pass a disaster supplemental that provides FEMA and HUD long-term recovery funds for 2025 and 2026 disasters, so survivors across the country, including in California, North Carolina, and Texas, can finally receive the long-term assistance they are still waiting for and need.

We require your leadership in defending vulnerable communities and ensuring federal disaster resources prioritize recovery, dignity, and safety. We stand ready to support any effort that strengthens equitable disaster response, protects access to FEMA assistance, and rebuilds trust in our communities by ending these abuses.

Sincerely,

A2 (Anthropocene Alliance)

A Community Voice

AccessAbility

Access Center for Independent Living

Affordable Homeownership Foundation

Alaska Coalition on Housing & Homelessness

Asian Americans Advancing Justice Southern California

Autistic Self Advocacy Network

AZ AANHPI Advocates

The Bill Anderson Fund

Buy-In Community Planning, Inc.

California Coalition for Rural Housing

Campaign to Fight Toxic Prisons

Catawba County Long Term Recovery Group (CatCo LTRG)

Chesapeake Climate Action Network Action Fund

Church World Service
Climate Defenders
Climate Justice Alliance
Climate Refugees
Climigration Network
Coalition on Human Needs
Colorado Coalition for the Homeless
Conservation Law Foundation
Consumer Federation of America
Consumer Watchdog
COPE Elkhorn
Dept of Health - Hawaii State Council on Disability
Disability Rights Education & Defense Fund
Disaster Central
Disaster Justice Network
Earth Ethics, Inc.
Earth Guardians
EcoEquity / Climate Equity Reference Project
Extreme Weather Survivors Action Fund
Fair Share Housing Center
Firmes, Unidos y Resilientes con la Abogacía Inc.
Florida Immigrant Coalition
Food & Water Watch
Friends of the Earth Action
Garden State Community Development Corporation
Hispanic Federation

Housing and Community Development Network of New Jersey

Inland Ocean Coalition

Institute for Policy Studies Climate Policy Program

Joseph's House of Camden

Just Economics West North Carolina

Just Solutions

Las Manos Trabajadoras que Mueven el Mundo

LatinoJustice PRLDEF

League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC)

Legal Key Partnership for Health and Justice

Livelihood Knowledge Exchange Network (LiKEN)

Louisiana Just Recovery Network

Louisiana Organization For Refugees and Immigrants (LORI)

Lowlander Center

Make Polluters Pay

Maui Housing Hui

MDC Inc

Methane Action

Micah Six Eight Mission

NAACP

National Coalition For Asian Pacific American Community Development (CAPACD)

National Consumer Law Center

National Healthcare for the Homeless Council

National Housing Law Project

National Immigration Law Center

National Low Income Housing Coalition

National Partnership for New Americans
NC Disaster Response and Resilience Network
The Parents' Climate Community
The Partnership for Inclusive Disaster Strategies
Physicians for Social Responsibility
Public Citizen
The Redress Movement
Reimagine Appalachia
Resiliency Law Center
Seeding Sovereignty
Stand.earth
Stand Up Nashville
Tennessee Immigrant and Refugee Rights Coalition
Texas Housers
Texas Women's Foundation
Third Act
Three Rivers Waterkeeper
Tierra del Sol Housing Corporation
UCC Disability Ministries Board
Union of Concerned Scientists
United Native American Housing Association
Week of Compassion
West Street Recovery
Western Center on Law and Poverty
World Institute on Disability
1000 Grandmothers for Future Generations

CC:

Senator Catherine Cortez Masto (D-NV)

Senator Dick Durbin (D-IL)

Senator John Fetterman (D-PA)

Senator Maggie Hassan (D-NH)

Senator Tim Kaine (D-VA)

Senator Angus King (D-ME)

Senator Jacky Rosen (D-NV)

Senator Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH)