



March 5, 2026

The Honorable Tim Scott, Chairman
Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
534 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Elizabeth Warren, Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
534 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Chairman Scott and Ranking Member Warren,

American Flood Coalition Action (AFCA) strongly supports inclusion of bipartisan language to permanently authorize the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)'s Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) program in the *21st Century ROAD to Housing Act*. We urge this language to remain in any final housing package that is sent to the President's desk.

AFCA is the nonprofit, 501(c)(4) advocacy arm of the American Flood Coalition (AFC), a nonpartisan nonprofit united in advancing common sense solutions to all types of flooding. AFC drives transformational adaptation efforts grounded in the experience of our more than 500 members — mayors, county officials, cities and towns, state lawmakers, governors, as well as nonprofit, business, and military leaders — across 22 states and the District of Columbia.

Since 1992, Congress has appropriated roughly \$100 billion for long-term disaster recovery through CDBG-DR, making it one of the most important federal recovery programs for state and local governments. As flood, wildfire, and other disaster survivors navigate the years-long road to recovery, states and local communities depend on CDBG-DR funding for a variety of long-term needs ranging from rebuilding housing to repairing infrastructure to tackling long-term resilience planning.

Despite the essential role it plays in disaster recovery, the program lacks a permanent statutory authorization, which has led to CDBG-DR being increasingly inefficient, cumbersome, and opaque.

The bipartisan language in the *21st Century ROAD to Housing Act* to permanently authorize CDBG-DR would address these issues and deliver a more efficient, effective, and accountable federal disaster recovery system. This long-needed step would establish one set of rules and regulations for CDBG-DR across disasters and appropriations, giving states and communities both certainty and flexibility to address their unique challenges, while helping HUD to get funding out the door faster with fewer bureaucratic hurdles.

Permanent authorization would establish a consistent, defined transition from initial, short-term FEMA response and recovery assistance into delivery of long-term HUD CDBG-DR recovery dollars.

Most importantly, CDBG-DR permanent authorization would help states, communities, and disaster survivors rebuild faster and better prepared for the next storm, while maximizing return on taxpayer investment.

AFCA applauds your leadership on this critical issue and urges Congress to enact this language as part of the *21st Century ROAD to Housing Act* or any final housing package.

Sincerely,

Julie Seger
Director of Policy & Government Relations
American Flood Coalition Action