

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 12, 2002

Dear Mr. Speaker:

In accordance with provisions of P.L. 107-73, the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 2002, I hereby request and make available \$500 million for the disaster relief program of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

These funds would allow FEMA to continue providing assistance to victims of disasters in several States, including victims of recent flooding in Texas and wild fires in Arizona and Colorado. These funds would also be available for ongoing response to prior disasters and to ensure that FEMA has resources on hand to provide timely response to future disasters.

I designate the funds made available today as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended.

The details of this action are set forth in the attached letter from the Director of Management and Budget. I concur with his comments and observations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Hastert", is written over a faint rectangular stamp.

The Honorable J. Dennis Hastert
Speaker of the House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Enclosure



THE DIRECTOR

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

July 11, 2002

The President

The White House

Submitted for your consideration is a request to make available previously appropriated contingent emergency funds for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The funding provided was made contingent upon your submission of a budget request to the Congress that includes designation of the amount requested as an emergency requirement.

Title III of P.L. 107-73, the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 2002, provided \$1.5 billion in contingent emergency appropriations for FEMA disaster relief. On May 15, 2002, you made \$500 million of this funding available to FEMA to address needs associated with tornadoes in Maryland and storms and flooding in Kentucky, Tennessee, and Virginia. Your approval of this request would make available another \$500 million for disaster relief for previously declared disasters, including recent flooding in Texas and wildfires in Arizona and Colorado. FEMA has been working with State and local authorities to provide assistance to the affected areas. These funds also would be available for ongoing response to prior disasters and to ensure that FEMA has resources on hand to provide timely response to future disasters.

I recommend that you designate this request for \$500 million as an emergency requirement in accordance with section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended. No further congressional action will be required.

I have carefully reviewed this proposal and am satisfied that it is necessary at this time. Therefore, I join the Director of FEMA in recommending that you make the requested funds available by signing the enclosed letter to the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "M E Daniels Jr", written in a cursive style.

Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr.
Director

Enclosure

**EMERGENCY APPROPRIATIONS: AMOUNTS PREVIOUSLY APPROPRIATED
MADE AVAILABLE BY THE PRESIDENT**

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

Disaster Relief.....\$500,000,000

Title III of P.L. 107-73, the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 2002, provided \$1.5 billion in emergency funding for FEMA disaster relief, contingent upon the President submitting a budget request to the Congress and designating the amount requested as an emergency requirement. On May 15, 2002, the President made available \$500 million of the \$1.5 billion to address tornado damage in Maryland and storms and flooding in Kentucky, Tennessee, and Virginia.

The President recently declared disasters in Texas for flooding and in Arizona and Colorado for wildfires. FEMA has been working with State and local authorities to provide assistance to the affected areas. This request would make available \$500 million of the \$1.0 billion in remaining contingent emergency funding for disaster relief activities associated with these recent disasters, as well as continuing response to prior disasters, and other disaster relief activities.