



**COUNTY OF LAKE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

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September 9, 2025

The Honorable Mike Thompson
268 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

RE: SUPPORT – Fixing Emergency Management for Americans (FEMA) Act – SUPPORT

Dear Congressman Thompson:

On behalf of the Lake County Board of Supervisors, On behalf of the Lake County Board of Supervisors, I am writing to thank you for cosponsoring the bipartisan Fixing Emergency Management for Americans (FEMA) Act (H.R. 4669) and to express our strong support for this important legislation. We greatly appreciate your commitment to strengthening federal disaster policy and ensuring that communities like ours have the tools they need to recover and rebuild.

As you know, Lake County has faced more than its share of federally declared disasters in recent years, including catastrophic wildfires such as the Valley Fire, Mendocino Complex Fire, and LNU Lightning Complex Fire, as well as severe flooding and winter storms that have devastated our communities. Each event has underscored both the critical importance of federal partnership and the frustrating challenges of navigating a slow, bureaucratic system that too often delays relief when it is needed most.

The FEMA Act takes direct aim at these barriers. It restores FEMA to Cabinet-level status to strengthen coordination and accountability, replaces the current reimbursement model with more predictable project-based grants so counties are not forced to wait years for repayment, and creates a single disaster application to make it easier for survivors to access aid. The bill also improves transparency through a public assistance dashboard and recovery task force, modernizes mitigation programs, and directs FEMA to give greater consideration to rural and economically distressed areas when weighing disaster declarations.

Had these reforms been in place during Lake County's past disasters, aid to displaced families would have arrived faster, critical infrastructure could have been rebuilt sooner, and we would have been able to invest more effectively in resilience to mitigate future risks.

With disasters growing in frequency and intensity, the FEMA Act offers counties like ours a smarter, faster, and more accountable path forward. Lake County is proud to endorse this legislation, and we deeply appreciate your leadership in championing its passage. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Hasan Sarsour, Lake County's federal representative, at 202-441-4516 or hs@paragonlobbying.com.

Respectfully,

Chair
Lake County Board of Supervisors
COUNTY OF LAKE

Cc: Honorable Senator Alex Padilla; Honorable Senator Adam Schiff