

# THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 15, 2002

Dear Mr. Speaker:

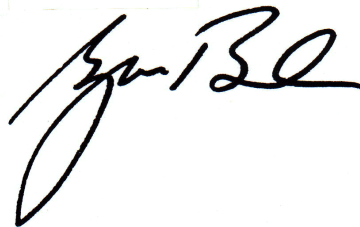
In accordance with provisions of P.L. 107-73, the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 2002, I hereby request and make available \$500 million for the Disaster Relief program of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

These funds will allow FEMA to continue providing assistance to victims of disasters in several States, including victims of recent tornadoes in Maryland and storms and flooding in Kentucky, Tennessee, and Virginia. 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 designate the \$500 million 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 enclosed letter from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget. I concur with his comments and observations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "George W. Bush", is written over a rectangular box. The signature is fluid and cursive.

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

May 15, 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. To date, you have not released any of these emergency funds. Your approval of this request would make available \$500 million for disaster relief for previously declared disasters, including victims of recent tornadoes in Maryland and storms and flooding in Kentucky, Tennessee, and Virginia. 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 black ink, appearing to read "M E Daniels Jr".

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. None of these funds have yet been designated as an emergency requirement and made available.

The President recently declared disasters in Maryland for tornadoes and in the States of Kentucky, Tennessee, and Virginia for damage caused by storms and flooding. 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 \$1.5 billion in 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.