

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

May 19, 2025

The Honorable Donald J. Trump  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20500

The Honorable Kristi Noem  
Secretary of Homeland Security  
U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
3801 Nebraska Avenue NW Washington, DC 20528

Dear President Trump and Secretary Noem:

We write to express concerns regarding discussions about potential reforms to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), including proposals for its dissolution. Given the increasing frequency and severity of natural disasters, FEMA's role in coordinating federal disaster response is more crucial than ever. Any consideration of restructuring or dissolving FEMA should be carefully evaluated to avoid compromising our nation's ability to effectively respond to emergencies.

Colorado has experienced devastating disasters in recent years,<sup>1</sup> including destructive wildfires and severe flooding that have left families displaced and communities struggling to rebuild. The 2021 Marshall Fire saw over 1,084 Coloradan homes lost, marking the most destructive wildfire in the state's history.<sup>2</sup> FEMA's critical support has helped Coloradans recover,<sup>3</sup> rebuild infrastructure, and prepare for future emergencies. Reducing FEMA's workforce or dissolving the agency completely would jeopardize ongoing recovery efforts and hinder the agency's ability to swiftly and effectively respond to future disasters in Colorado and across the country.

FEMA continues to play a crucial role to safeguard lives, property, and communities during times of crisis. Its staff ensures that victims receive assistance, debris is cleared, and local governments get the support they need to recover.<sup>4</sup> Restructuring or slashing the agency's workforce will delay response times, slow down rebuilding efforts, and leave communities more vulnerable to future disasters.

We respectfully urge you to maintain strong funding and staffing levels for FEMA, and ensure that any reforms are based on community needs to cut red tape when support from the federal government is needed. Our communities depend on FEMA's expertise and swift action during emergencies, and we cannot afford to weaken this vital safety net. We ask that you prioritize the safety and resilience of American communities over short-term budget cuts.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

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<sup>1</sup> See FEMA's approval of fund for Marshall Fire Recovery, 14 Apr. 2023, Spring Creek Wildfire Response 2 Nov. 2022, etc.

<sup>2</sup> See [Historical Wildfire Information](#) by the Colorado Division of Fire Prevention & Control.

<sup>3</sup> [Congressional Research Service](#), Simplifying FEMA's Assistance Programs, 7 Nov. 2024

<sup>4</sup> FEMA also helps connect disaster survivors in Colorado with counseling and mental health care resources, as well as focuses on risk reduction before emergencies even happen. [See Region 8](#).



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Michael F. Bennet  
United States Senator



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John Hickenlooper  
United States Senator



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Jason Crow  
Member of Congress



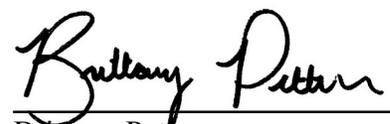
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Diana DeGette  
Member of Congress



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Joe Neguse  
Member of Congress



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Brittany Pettersen  
Member of Congress