

The Honorable Lucille Roybal-Allard
U.S. House of Representatives
2083 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Chris Murphy
The U.S. Senate
136 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Chuck Fleischmann
U.S. House of Representatives
462 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito
U.S. Senate
172 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

May 17, 2022

Dear Chairwoman Roybal-Allard, Ranking Member Fleischmann, Chairman Murphy, and Ranking Member Capito,

As organizations representing the design and construction industry, the Building Resilient Action Coalition (BRAC) is committed to supporting federal policies that provide critical assistance to improve pre-disaster mitigation. The resilience of the built environment is vital for communities across the country, and additional investment should be made to support vulnerable populations.

We recognize that mitigation efforts work while also saving taxpayer dollars; for example, adopting the latest editions of published consensus-based building codes and standards can save up to \$13 per \$1 invested.ⁱ Resilience strategies like these can and should be promoted in communities across the country as an important tool to save property – and more importantly – lives.

It is critical that Congress fund key pre-disaster mitigation programs to support communities across the country to better prepare for future disasters. As the Subcommittee on Homeland Security considers the appropriations bill for FY 2023, we urge you to include the following priorities:

- Increase funding to \$500 million for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Program.
- Fully fund the FEMA capitalization grants as established by the STORM Act [Public Law 116-284] at a minimum of \$100 million.

The BRAC stands ready to work with the Committee members on both sides of the aisle to better prepare America's built environment against the threat of disaster. We look forward to continuing to work with you.

Sincerely,

American Council of Engineering Companies
American Institute of Architects (AIA)
American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers
Associated Builders and Contractors
Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA) International
BuildStrong Coalition
Flood Mitigation Industry Association
International Institute of Building Enclosure Consultants (IIBEC)
National Concrete Masonry Association (NCMA)
National Roofing Contractors Association
U.S. Green Building Council
U.S. Resiliency Council (USRC)