



## RESOLUTION

**Overview:** A resolution by the Restore Louisiana Task Force recommending to Louisiana Governor John Bel Edwards allocations from the state's Third Appropriation of \$51,435,000, as follows: (1) allocation of \$37,470,799 towards the Homeowner Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Program, in addition to the previously allocated \$1,293,693,120 to the homeowner program, for a total homeowner program allocation of \$1,331,163,919; (2) allocation of \$4,163,422 towards the Rental Housing Programs, in addition to the previously allocated \$130,000,000 to the rental housing programs, for a total rental housing programs allocation of \$134,163,422; and (3) allocation of \$9,800,799 towards the Watershed Planning (Infrastructure Enhancement) for a total infrastructure enhancement allocation of \$9,800,799.

**WHEREAS,** on September 2, 2016, Governor John Bel Edwards established by Executive Order Number JBE 2016-65, the Restore Louisiana Task Force, directing the members of the Task Force to establish both short and long-term priorities in developing plans for recovery and redevelopment;

**WHEREAS,** these priorities and plans shall focus on the following areas: housing and redevelopment; economic and workforce development; education; infrastructure and transportation; healthcare; fiscal stability; family services; and agriculture;

**WHEREAS,** on September 29, 2016, President Obama signed into law a Continuing Resolution directing \$500 million to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for recovery from disasters in 2016;

**WHEREAS,** HUD allocated \$437.8 million of that \$500 million to the State of Louisiana as a result of the catastrophic and destructive floods that impacted the state in both March and August 2016;

**WHEREAS,** on December 10, 2016, President Obama signed into law the Fiscal Year 2017 Further Continuing Resolution, directing HUD to allocate \$1.8 billion to states that experienced presidentially declared disasters in 2016 but prior to December 10, 2016. These funds are in addition to the \$437.8 million HUD allocated in October 2016;

**WHEREAS,** HUD allocated \$1,219,172,000 of that \$1.8 billion to the State of Louisiana as additional recovery funds as a result of the catastrophic and destructive floods that impacted the state in both March and August 2016;

**WHEREAS,** on May 5, 2017, President Trump signed into law the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2017, directing HUD to allocate \$400 million to states that experienced presidentially declared disasters in 2016 and for additional major disasters declared in calendar year 2017 or later until such funds are fully allocated. These funds are in addition to the \$437.8 million HUD allocated in October 2016 and the \$1,219,172,000 allocated in December 2016;

**WHEREAS**, HUD allocated \$51,435,000 of that \$400 million to the State of Louisiana as additional recovery funds as a result of the catastrophic and destructive floods that impacted the state in both March and August 2016;

**WHEREAS**, the total amount allocated of \$1,708,407,020 is less than half the amount the State estimates is required to address unmet disaster recovery needs;

**WHEREAS**, given the significant shortfall in allocated funding, the minimum goals and primary priorities of the Restore Louisiana Task Force for each program area are:

Housing:

Enable homeowners currently displaced, as well as those currently in their homes but living in unsustainable shelter conditions, to complete adequate repairs and/or reconstruction in order to return and re-occupy their home on a permanent basis;

Repair or construct an adequate number of affordable rental units to accommodate currently displaced renters within a reasonable proximity of their jobs and schools;

Provide adequate assisted housing solutions for disaster victims who are homeless or are in danger of becoming homeless, as well as for long-term unemployed and extremely low-income renters currently receiving FEMA temporary assistance;

Infrastructure:

Provide adequate cost-share assistance necessary to ensure that State and local infrastructure projects funded under FEMA's Public Assistance Program are completed;

Identify solutions for protecting private and public investments in the long-term recovery from the Great Floods of 2016;

Economic Recovery:

Provide adequate assistance via grants, loans and technical assistance to prevent otherwise viable small businesses from closing and/or jobs being eliminated due to the disaster;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE RESTORE LOUISIANA TASK FORCE, THAT:

The Restore Louisiana Task Force recommends to the Governor the following allocation amounts and program descriptions, as applicable, for the Homeowner Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Program, Rental Housing Programs and Watershed Planning (Infrastructure Enhancement):

**A. Homeowner Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Program: \$37,470,799**

With the increase in the Homeowner Program allocation, the following modifications to the Homeowner Program are recommended:

1. Expand program to include previously excluded homeowners: \$29,318,799

Expand budget to provide funding to include National Flood Insurance Program (“NFIP”) structural insurance policy holders in a phased approach, as adequate funding is available.

2. Expand budget to provide funding in connection with LMI Households which declined SBA Loans: \$5,152,000
3. Expand budget related to Additional Costs for Buyout/Infrastructure Program for Severe Repetitive Loss Communities: \$3,000,000

**B. Rental Housing Programs: \$4,163,422**

Provide additional allocation to Rental Housing Programs.

**C. Watershed Planning (Infrastructure Enhancement): \$9,800,799**

This allocation will focus on planning and modeling costs related to current and future risks of Louisiana’s watersheds, focusing initially on those watersheds with the highest risk, taking into consideration population density and/or potential impacts on the 10 most impacted and distressed parishes.

**Summary:**

Program Area	Budget
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR HOMEOWNERS	<b>\$37,470,799</b>
Homeowner Program: expand program to fund Phase 1 NFIP holders	\$29,318,799
LMI Households who declined SBA Loans	\$5,152,000
Severe Repetitive Loss Communities	\$3,000,000
ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR RENTAL PROGRAMS	<b>\$4,163,422</b>
WATERSHED PLANNING (10 Most Impacted and Distressed Parishes)	<b>\$9,800,799</b>
TOTAL	<b>\$51,435,000</b>

PASSED AND UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED on this the 9<sup>th</sup> day of June 2017.

**APPROVED**

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**Jimmy Durbin, Co-Chair**

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**Jacqui Vines Wyatt, Co-Chair**