



**To: Emergency Managers**  
**From: Martha Braddock**  
**Policy Advisor**  
**International Association of Emergency Managers**

**Subject: Senate Appropriations Subcommittee Markup of DHS 09 Budget**  
**Date: June 18, 2008**

Today the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security marked up the FY 2009 Appropriations Bill for the Department of Homeland Security

The complete bill includes \$41.3 billion, which is \$2.6 billion above the President's request.

The following information is from Chairman Byrd's Press Release and is the only information I have at this time. Additional information and the report will be available after the full committee markup which is scheduled for June 19. Full release is attached.

## **FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY**

### **Grants**

The bill provides an increase of \$1.88 billion over the President's Budget request for state and local homeland security grants and training, including first responder grants.

The bill restored the following FEMA programs to FY 2008 level:

- Emergency Management Performance Grants --\$300 million, \$100 million more than the President's Request.
- Firefighter Assistance Grants, including SAFER
- Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grants
- Rail and Transit Security Grants
- Port Security Grants
- Interoperable Communications

### **FEMA Management and Administration**

- Increase of over \$200 million.
- Release states "This effort builds on an increase of \$100 million provided in fiscal year 2008 to rebuild core capacities within FEMA after the Administration let it wither on the vine. With this increase, FEMA permanent staffing will have been increased by 133 percent since Hurricane Katrina in fiscal year 2005."

### **Departmental Policy Items**

- **Reorganization Authority.** Included a general provision to preclude the Department from using funds during FY 2009 to reorganize without congressional approval. “The Department was granted broad authority in the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to reorganize its functions and organizational units without congressional approval. This authority has been used by the Department nine times. Continuous reorganizations impede the ability of the Department to operate effectively.”