



January 22, 2024

The Honorable Doug LaMalfa
U.S. House of Representatives
408 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Greg Stanton
U.S. House of Representatives
207 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives LaMalfa and Stanton:

On behalf of our collective organizations, we write to thank you for working with us on the ***Wildfire Response Improvement Act*** (H.R. 7070). As wildfires persist and generate more widespread effects, they transform into hazards affecting entire communities and regions.

To understand wildfires, one must first understand a wide array of factors including forest management, drought, and the intersection with existing programs at the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). We commend your efforts in shaping bipartisan legislation that adapts existing FEMA response, recovery, and mitigation programs to effectively address the evolving wildfire threat, rather than introducing additional and cumbersome initiatives.

Given the frequency and severity of catastrophic wildfires across the country, we stand ready to support and recommend swift passage of this legislation in the House as it will make timely changes to assistance provided during last year's unparalleled wildfire incidents.

Sincerely,

Big City Emergency Managers
BuildStrong America
National Association of Counties
National Emergency Management Association
International Association of Emergency Managers
International Association of Fire Chiefs