

**R.02-2024**

## Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Home Builders Association of Greater New Orleans

*Supporting Long-term Reauthorization and Key Reforms of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)*

**WHEREAS**, the Home Builders Association of Greater New Orleans (HBAGNO) is a non-profit trade association dedicated to supporting the residential housing industry and advocating for the American Dream of home ownership; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) provides essential flood insurance coverage to homeowners, renters, and businesses across the United States, safeguarding them from financial ruin in the event of devastating floods; and

**WHEREAS**, the current authorization of the NFIP is set to expire on September 30, 2024 (P.L. 118-47), necessitating immediate congressional action to ensure continued protection for policyholders; and

**WHEREAS**, recent changes to the NFIP, particularly the implementation of FEMA's Risk Rating 2.0, have resulted in significant increases in flood insurance premiums, posing affordability challenges for many policyholders; and

**WHEREAS**, under Risk Rating 2.0, policyholders have faced average annual premium increases of over \$900, making it imperative to introduce affordability improvements, including capping annual premium increases at a rate lower than 18% and implementing targeted means-tested assistance; and

**WHEREAS**, transparency in the NFIP is lacking, with policyholders unable to clearly understand the basis for their premium calculations, necessitating the introduction of a premium calculator and greater clarity in the rate-setting process to incentivize mitigation measures and enhance home resilience; and

**WHEREAS**, NFIP policyholders lack flexibility in payment options, such as the ability to make monthly payments, and require a grace period for policy renewals to prevent lapses in coverage due to unavoidable delays; and

**WHEREAS**, since its inception, Congress has authorized over 30 short-term extensions of the NFIP, creating uncertainty for policyholders and undermining the stability of the program; and

**WHEREAS**, bipartisan and bicameral efforts led by Senator Bill Cassidy and Representative Frank Pallone are currently underway to secure a long-term reauthorization of the NFIP and address critical issues related to affordability, transparency, and policyholder protections;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Directors of the Home Builders Association of Greater New Orleans (HBAGNO) strongly supports a long-term reauthorization of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and the advancement of key reforms that prioritize affordability, transparency, and policyholder protection; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the HBAGNO urges Congress to act swiftly to pass legislation that extends the NFIP beyond September 30, 2024, and incorporates necessary reforms to address the challenges posed by Risk Rating 2.0; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the HBAGNO endorses the efforts of Senator Bill Cassidy, Representative Frank Pallone, and other key partners in working towards a bipartisan and bicameral solution to reauthorize and refine the NFIP; and

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that the HBAGNO enjoin the Reform NFIP Letter to House and Senate Leadership put forth for submission from the Coalition for Sustainable Flood Insurance of which the HBAGNO is a member.

Adopted by the Board of Directors of the Home Builders Association of Greater New Orleans on this 18th day of June 2024.

Shivers Nellon.  
President, Home Builders Association of Greater New Orleans

Dan Mills.  
CEO, Home Builders Association of Greater New Orleans