

**The Honorable John Carter
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Homeland Security**

Opening Statement:

FY 2019 Budget Request

Witness:

Administrator Brock Long

11:00AM | Friday | April 13, 2018 | 2359 RHOB

Today's hearing is called to order—

This morning we welcome the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Brock Long, to discuss FEMA's fiscal year 2019 budget request. Administrator—welcome.

I want to start by thanking you for your leadership in overseeing not just FEMA, but the entire federal response to the record level of disaster activity this past year.

Congress has now passed three supplementals, providing nearly \$50 billion for the Disaster Relief Fund, for response and recovery for these catastrophic events. I'd like to hear from you today on how

recovery efforts are going, and what additional resources you think FEMA will need in the coming months to continue to support long-term recovery.

The FY19 budget for FEMA is \$11 billion. The request proposes reductions to existing FEMA grant programs, while at the same time requesting \$522 million for a new grant program that hasn't yet been authorized. I'd like to hear from you on why you've proposed these cuts—particularly in the current threat environment—and what this new grant program is intended to achieve.

I understand FEMA has also recently released a new strategic plan, which outlines your vision for the agency. I hope you'll discuss how you plan to implement this strategy, and how the FY19 request supports these efforts.

Now I'd like to recognize the distinguished Ranking Member for any remarks she wishes to make.

###