

GREG STANTON
ARIZONA'S FOURTH DISTRICT

WASHINGTON OFFICE
207 CANNON BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-9888

DISTRICT OFFICE
1220 S. ALMA SCHOOL ROAD, STE. 209
MESA, ARIZONA 85210
(602) 956-2463

STANTON.HOUSE.GOV



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

**COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE**

RANKING MEMBER
**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, AND
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SUBCOMMITTEE**
AVIATION SUBCOMMITTEE
HIGHWAYS AND TRANSIT SUBCOMMITTEE

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS
WESTERN HEMISPHERE SUBCOMMITTEE

**SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE STRATEGIC
COMPETITION BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES
AND THE CHINESE COMMUNIST PARTY**

October 9, 2025

The Honorable Kristi Noem
Secretary
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
2707 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave. SE
Washington, D.C. 20528

Mr. David Richardson
Senior Official Performing the Duties of Administrator
Federal Emergency Management Agency
500 C Street SW
Washington, D.C., 20472

Secretary Noem and Mr. Richardson:

I write today to urge you to take immediate action to waive the \$100,000 sign off policy for all disaster aid ahead of Hurricane Priscilla or its remnants approaching the U.S. mainland.

Hurricane Priscilla is forecast to impact Arizona and the Desert Southwest with prolonged, potentially disastrous, rainfall. Over a month's-worth of rain could fall in Arizona over the course of a few days. Hazardous, widespread flooding may follow as historic droughts and wildfires across the region have increased risks of runoff and flash floods.

Currently, there is a Department of Homeland (DHS) policy that requires expenses over \$100,000 to be personally approved by Secretary Noem. In the Texas flooding disaster earlier this year, there is concern that these approvals held up the ability for Urban Search and Rescue to deploy, and for call centers to be staffed. The entire disaster claimed at least 135 lives.

It has been proven that DHS's current \$100,000 review policy delays the delivery of FEMA's aid. During the July 4 flash flooding disaster in Texas earlier this year, the policy delayed the deployment of Urban Search and Rescue by over 72 hours and caused disaster survivor call center contracts to lapse. The entire disaster claimed at least 135 lives. I urge you to waive the policy to sign off on expenditures over \$100,000 for the safety of Arizonans.

Sincerely,

Greg Stanton
Member of Congress