

review and approval. The Committee specifically encourages FEMA to include State, local, and tribal representatives in the development of the Integrated Planning System and any grants performance system developed by the Department.

SPECIAL POPULATIONS

GAO recommended (GAO 08-369) that FEMA coordinate with the National Council on Disability to ensure that the needs of individuals with disabilities are fully addressed by FEMA's programs. The Committee directs FEMA's Disability Coordinator Office to implement this recommendation expeditiously.

The Committee continues to be concerned that individuals with Limited English Proficiency (LEP) may be underserved during disaster response efforts. The Committee directs FEMA to coordinate with representatives of LEP populations on ways to address their needs through the agency's preparedness and response capabilities. FEMA is directed to provide a report on its efforts to coordinate with LEP populations within six months after the date of enactment of this Act.

IMPACT OF CLIMATE ON FUTURE DISASTERS

The Committee is concerned that FEMA does not have a robust climate change program in place to assess the potential impact of future disasters on its ability to prepare for, mitigate against, and respond to natural disasters; its managing of the National Flood Insurance Fund; and its efforts to help maintain accurate maps of the nation's flood plains. To begin to address the shortfall in information about the impact of climate change, the Committee provides \$5,000,000 for the State of North Carolina to perform a risk assessment and mitigation strategy demonstration of the potential impacts of sea level rise in that state associated with long-term climate change. FEMA is directed to use the study results to assess the long-term fiscal implications of climate change as it affects the frequency and impacts of natural disasters, and to disseminate information from the study to other states to inform their climate change mitigation efforts.

FLOOD CONTROL AND HAZARD MITIGATION DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM

The Committee is aware of several existing flood control projects in the Upper Cumberland and Big Sandy watershed undertaken by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers following the flood of 1977 that can potentially serve as demonstrative interagency flood control and hazard mitigation solutions. The Committee provides \$2,425,000 to conduct demonstration flood control and hazard mitigation projects with interagency stakeholders, including FEMA, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and State and local agencies. Funds are provided to demonstrate a wide range of project solutions across FEMA's multiple disaster preparedness and mitigation programs, including: retrofitting and hardening of existing flood walls and levees; pump refurbishment; land acquisition; transportation infrastructure modifications; and other flood damage reduction projects within this watershed.