



December 10, 2024

Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Honorable Charles Schumer
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Speaker Johnson, Leader Schumer, Senator McConnell, and Congressman Jeffries:

On behalf of the National Association of Professional Insurance Agents (PIA)¹, we ask that the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) be reauthorized beyond its current December 20 expiration date for as long a period as possible.

The NFIP's most recent five-year reauthorization expired in 2017, and, in advance of that deadline, the 115th Congress was unable to agree on NFIP reforms. As a result, the program briefly lapsed three times. Since 2017, the NFIP has been subject to 31 extensions of varying lengths, none longer than one year. Absent Congressional action, the program will expire on December 20, 2024.

If Congress allows the NFIP to lapse, consumers will be unable to renew existing flood insurance policies or purchase new ones. Claims may be paid on losses associated with existing, in-force policies, but only for policyholders whose losses occurred before the lapse began. During a lapse, consumers engaged in real estate transactions may experience disruptions, with sales of homes in mandatory purchase areas most likely to be delayed indefinitely. If flooding events occur during a lapse, claims associated with those losses may not be processed until the program is reauthorized. Prior NFIP lapses are estimated to have disrupted the sales of over one thousand homes per day, and the longer the lapse, the greater the disruption.

PIA supports a long-term reauthorization of the program with needed reforms. However, at this late stage, we urge you to support a "clean" extension of the NFIP for at least a year, if not longer, to provide consumers and other stakeholders with stability and to protect the security of the American economy writ large.

¹ PIA is a national trade association founded in 1931, which represents member insurance agents in all 50 states, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the District of Columbia. PIA members are small business owners and insurance professionals.

Thank you again for your leadership on this important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Skiados". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mike Skiados, MBA, CAE

CEO

National Association of Professional Insurance Agents