

CARLOS CURBELO  
26TH DISTRICT, FLORIDA

WAYS AND MEANS  
COMMITTEE

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March 9, 2018

Brock Long  
FEMA Administrator  
500 C St SW  
Washington, DC 20024

Dear Mr. Long,

As you are aware, the Transitional Shelter Assistance program is set to expire March 11. This program, which provides short-term lodging assistance to disaster survivors dislocated from their homes, has been a critical component of the hurricane recovery effort in the Florida Keys.

On September 18, Governor Rick Scott estimated that 10,000 of the 75,000 Keys residents have been left homeless after Hurricane Irma. Although many residents have been able to find more permanent accommodations, a number of Monroe County residents still require assistance. Because of the severe lack of affordable housing in the Keys, the transition to permanent housing is not as easy as it is in other parts of the country. To compound this hurdle, because the Keys are islands, relocating to the surrounding area would mean residents moving as far as 100 miles from their home.

In recognition of the unique situation facing displaced Keys residents, I respectfully request that the Transitional Shelter Assistance program be extended beyond March 11 for Monroe County.

Thank you for your kind attention to this urgent request.

Sincerely,



Carlos Curbelo