Make Your Local Emergency Management Voice Heard:



Effectively Engaging Your Elected Representatives

- Martha Braddock
 - Larry Gispert



Key questions to consider when you decide whether to engage:

• Who do you want to tell Members of Congress and FEMA what local emergency managers need?



Why would Members of Congress or their staff want to hear from you?



Why is outreach to Members of Congress and their staff important?



Example of Results of Action

Emergency Management Performance Grant Increases

- FY 2004 Budget request—up to \$151 million, none used for personnel, emphasis on terrorism
- Actual Results in FY 2004-- \$180 million, for personnel, separate account, all hazards
- FY 2010 results-- \$340 million, separate account, all hazards



Upcoming Opportunities to Engage

February 1 President's Budget Request

House

Request House Members to put EMPG in priority letters

Senate-

- Request Senators to put EMPG in priority/request letters
- Seek support from Senators to sign Senate EMPG letter



IAEM Survey

Will distribute soon

 Need specific examples of benefits of EMPG for Congress



Final Thoughts

 Building relationships with Members of Congress or Staff

Working with State Associations



Thank You

We look forward to your questions.

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