# Division B Disaster Relief and Recovery

Certifications FY 2009

### **JERRY F. COSTELLO**

12TH DISTRICT, ILLINOIS www.house.gov/costello

PLEASE RESPOND TO THE OFFICE CHECKED BELOW:

# Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, **DC** 20515–1312

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT INVESTIGATIONS AND OVERSIGHT

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WATER RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT

**September 22, 2008** 

The Honorable David Obey Chairman **House Appropriations Committee** H-218 US Capitol Washington, DC 20515

Honorable Jerry Lewis **Ranking Member House Appropriations Committee** 1016 Longworth HOB Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Obey and Ranking Member Lewis.

I am requesting inclusion of bill language affecting the FEMA Map Modernization program in fiscal year 2009. There is no specific entity that would receive funding since it is a policy change; however, Madison, St. Clair, and Monroe Counties in my district would be affected. Under the bill language, FEMA would not be able to begin the statutory appeals process required under section 1363 of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 until preliminary flood insurance rate maps are completed and released for public review, preliminary base flood elevations are published in the Federal Register, and the second required local newspaper publication of such base flood elevations is made for the City of St. Louis, St. Charles, and St. Louis, counties in Missouri and Madison, Monroe, and St. Clair counties in Illinois. I certify that neither I nor my spouse has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

DAVID LOEBSACK

2ND DISTRICT, IOWA

COMMITTEES: ARMED SERVICES

SUBCOMMITTEES: STRATEGIC FORCES READINESS

EDUCATION AND LABOR

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AND PENSIONS

EARLY CHILDHOOD, ELEMENTARY
AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

### Congress of the United States House of Representatives

Washington, **DC** 20515—1502

WASHINGTON OFFICE: 1513 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON, DC 20515 (202) 225–6576

DISTRICT OFFICES:

125 South Dubuque Street Iowa City, IA 52240 (319) 351–0789

150 1ST AVENUE NE SUITE 375 CEDAR RAPIDS, IA 52401 (319) 364–2288 1 (866) 914–IOWA

September 22, 2008

The Honorable David R. Obey Chairman Committee on Appropriations H218, The Capitol Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Jerry Lewis Ranking Member Committee on Appropriations H218, The Capitol Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Obey and Ranking Member Lewis:

I am writing to request funding for new construction of the United States District Courthouse for the Northern District of Iowa to be located in Cedar Rapids, Iowa in fiscal year 2009. The Executive Committee of the Judicial Conference of the United States recently elevated this request to a judicial space emergency.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the U.S. General Services Administration, located at 1800 F St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20405. As you may be aware, Cedar Rapids has experienced historic flooding levels, well outside of the 500-year floodplain, and the cost of the damage continues to rise in excess of \$1 billion. Due to this historic flooding, the current U.S. District Courthouse sustained significant damage. All operations, staff, and judges have been relocated for an indefinite period of time.

Realizing the current difficult situation, the Executive Committee of the Judicial Conference of the United States, in addition to elevating the request to an emergency, is encouraging the General Services Administration to work with Congress and the Office of Management and Budget to expedite funding for the construction of a new U.S. Courthouse.

In light of the damage caused by the severe weather situation, replacing the courthouse is of extreme importance and will drastically improve safety for judges, jurors, staff, security officers, prisoners, and the general public. I certify that neither I nor my spouse has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

Dave Loebsack Member of Congress JOHN M. SHIMKUS 19TH DISTRICT, ILLINOIS

2452 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON, DC 20515 (202) 225-5271

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## Congress of the United States House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-1319

September 22, 2008

3130 CHATHAM ROAD, SUITE C SPRINGFIELD, IL 62704 (217) 492-5090

> 240 REGENCY CENTRE COLLINSVILLE, IL 62234 (618) 344-3065

221 East Broadway, Suite 102 Centralia, IL 62801 (618) 532-9676

> CITY HALL, ROOM 12 110 EAST LOCUST HARRISBURG, IL 62946 (618) 252-8271

120 South Fair Street OLNEY, IL 62450 (618) 392-7737

www.house.gov/shimkus

The Honorable David Obey, Chairman House Appropriations Committee H-218 U.S. Capitol Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Jerry Lewis, Ranking Member House Appropriations Committee 1016 Longworth Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Obey and Ranking Member Lewis:

I am requesting funding for the City of St. Louis, St. Charles, and St. Louis, counties in Missouri and Madison, Monroe, and St. Clair counties in Illinois in fiscal year 2009. The funding would be used to ensure that until such time as preliminary flood insurance rate maps initiated prior to October 1, 2008 are completed and released for public review, preliminary base flood elevations are published in the Federal Register, and the second required local newspaper publication of such base flood elevations is made that the Administrator shall not begin the statutory appeals process required under section 1363 of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968. I certify that neither I nor my spouse has any financial interest in this project.

Consistent with the Republican Leadership's policy on earmarks, I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge this request (1) is not directed to an entity or program that will be named after a sitting Member of Congress; (2) is not intended to be used by an entity to secure funds for other entities unless the use of funding is consistent with the specified purpose of the earmark; and (3) meets or exceeds all statutory requirements for matching funds where applicable. I further certify that should this request be included in the bill, I will place a statement in the Congressional Record describing how the funds will be spent and justifying the use of federal taxpayer funds.

IGHN M. SHIMKUS Member of Congress

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