

Washington, DC (March 8, 2011) – Rep. Gus Bilirakis (FL-09), Chairman of the Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Communications, will hold a hearing at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, March 9, to address the Fiscal Year 2012 budget request for the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

FEMA Administrator Craig Fugate will testify at the hearing.

"I will stress the need for continued communications and information sharing between FEMA and state and local law enforcement, emergency response providers, and emergency management officials," Bilirakis said. "I am also interested in learning more about FEMA's efforts to efficiently administer and monitor its many first responder grant programs to ensure that funding is directed on the basis of risk and used in a manner that best enhances our security."

As Chairman of the Subcommittee, Bilirakis oversees FEMA, communications during emergency situations, grant programs for emergency preparedness and disaster response, and recovery efforts on a federal, state and local level.

WHO: Committee on Homeland Security; Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Communications

WHAT: Ensuring Effective Preparedness and Response - An Assessment of the Fiscal Year 2012 Budget Request for the Federal Emergency Management Agency

WHEN: 9:30 a.m., Wednesday, March 9, 2011

WHERE: 311 Cannon House Office Building; Live stream at <http://homeland.house.gov/>

Related Information:

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[Tampa Tribune Op-Ed: Preparing the nation for emergencies](#)

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