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Resolution to Expand the "Managing State" Concept for the HMGP

WHEREAS: In 1994, the "Managing State" concept was introduced by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) as an improved means to implement the HMGP program. This concept was born in an effort to allow states (with proven grant management capability and the capability to provide adequate assistance to communities in planning and implementing mitigation projects) to receive an HMGP allocation with minimal FEMA review. In an effort to streamline the HMGP approval, funding, management, and close-out process, states with demonstrated capability would be provided greater flexibility in managing the HMGP.

WHEREAS: In 1998, under a pilot program initiated by FEMA, the states of Florida, Ohio, and North Dakota were designated Managing States. Since that time, an initial review of each state's performance has been conducted by an evaluation team comprised of FEMA regional and headquarters staff; staff from the Managing State; and a representative from another peer state involved in managing an ongoing HMGP program. ASFPM understands that the evaluation teams reported the states were meeting or exceeding expectations as Managing States, with a notable accomplishment being the speed in which HMGP grant reviews and approvals were occurring. Realizing the goal of creating the Managing State concept was to expedite the overall HMGP process and to retain quality mitigation projects, the pilot seems to be a success. The evaluation teams also reported, after a random review of HMGP project fields, that recordkeeping and other program components of the HMGP were in order and accountable from a fiscal, legal, and audit perspective.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The Association of State Floodplain Managers encourages FEMA to explore further evolution of the Managing State concept, including:

- Expedite additional analysis of the concept in order to identify obstacles to further implementation;
- Expedite the process to designate voluntary, additional Managing States nationwide;
- Require that Managing States demonstrate the capability of the NFIP State Coordinator's office to provide technical assistance and compliance reviews of communities submitting grant applications;
- Use the Managing State concept to foster increased state capability to support the Community Assistance Program (CAP) and the Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: The Association of State Floodplain Managers recommends that FEMA work with Congress in the Year 2000 to amend the appropriate statutes, rules or other limitations to allow FEMA to delegate environmental review of HMGP projects to the states.

APPROVAL _	4-26-99	ATTEST
	(date)	Board Secretary

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD ON _____4-26-99___