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Association of Minnesota Emergency Managers (AMEM)

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Minnesota House of Representatives, Public Safety Committee Members,

The Association of Minnesota Emergency Management (AMEM) is comprised of over 400 county, city, tribal nations, and other emergency management professionals throughout the State of Minnesota. These members are involved in Preparedness, Prevention, Response, Recovery, and Mitigation from disasters and represent the local jurisdictions of Minnesota in times of need and crisis.

AMEM has been a strong advocate for the Disaster Assistance Contingency Account since its inception in 2014. One of the key benefits of the account includes avoiding the need for calling a special session for disaster recovery funding as well as more expediently assisting the local governments and citizens who have been impacted by disasters. Prior to the passage of the initial law in 2014, the Legislature was required to convene each time a disaster was declared to appropriate state dollars towards community recovery efforts. This account allows the state to seamlessly and efficiently guide appropriate support to local communities quickly.

The account also provides the required 25% share of state funding when the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) declares a federal emergency, which usually covers just 75%, with the other 25% needing to come from local general funds.

The Association of Minnesota Emergency Managers (AMEM) supports the ongoing funding to the Disaster Assistance Contingency Account to better help our communities in a time of disaster and need.

Blain Johnson, AMEM President