



August 28, 2024

Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Honorable Charles Schumer
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Speaker Johnson, Leader Schumer, Congressman Jeffries, and Senator McConnell:

On behalf of the National Association of Professional Insurance Agents (PIA)¹, we urge you to reauthorize the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) beyond its current September 30 expiration date for as long a period as possible.

The history of NFIP extensions has been messy. The program was extended 17 times between 2008 and 2012, when the previous five-year reauthorization was signed into law. The NFIP's most recent five-year reauthorization expired on September 30, 2017, and, in advance of that deadline, the 115th Congress was unable to agree on NFIP reforms. As a result, the program briefly lapsed three times. Since 2017, the NFIP has been subject to 30 extensions of varying lengths, but none has been longer than one year. Without Congressional action, the program will expire again on September 30, 2024.

If Congress allows the NFIP to lapse, consumers will be unable to renew existing policies or purchase new ones. Claims may be paid on losses associated with existing, in-force policies, but only for policyholders who incur losses before a lapse begins. During a lapse, consumers engaged in real estate transactions may experience disruptions, with sales of homes in mandatory purchase zones most likely to be delayed indefinitely. If flooding events occur during a lapse, claims associated with those losses may not be processed until the program is reauthorized. Prior

¹ PIA is a national trade association founded in 1931, which represents member insurance agents in all 50 states, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the District of Columbia. PIA members are small business owners and insurance professionals.

NFIP lapses are estimated to have delayed the sale of over one thousand homes per day, and the longer the lapse, the more widespread the disruption.

PIA supports a long-term reauthorization of the program with needed reforms. However, at this late stage, we urge you to support a “clean” extension of the NFIP for at least a year, if not longer, to provide stability to consumers and other stakeholders and for the security of the American economy writ large.

Thank you again for your leadership on this important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jon Gentile".

Jon Gentile
Chief Advocacy Officer
National Association of Professional Insurance Agents