

Building Resilience: A Community Perspective on Energy Codes

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U.S. National Policy Overview

- **Characteristics of traditional policy approaches to disaster relief:**
 - Reactive
 - Delayed
 - Retrospective (replacement of “like” with “like”)
 - Inefficient

Should we accept this picture as the norm?



U.S. National Policy Overview

- **Consequences of policy solutions that only respond to disasters:**
 - Economic loss
 - Vulnerable building stock
 - No investment in mitigation or adaptation
 - Abandonment

A New Age for Resilience Policy

- **Proactive** v. reactive
- **Tailored solutions** v. one size fits all
- **Efficient** v. wasteful
- **Incentivize** v. compensate

Bipartisan Budget Act

- **Budget deal passed in February 2018**
- **Authorized an increased federal cost share for states implementing resilience measures:**
 - Mitigation planning
 - Adoption & enforcement of codes
 - Community Rating System participation
 - Incentive programs

Disaster Recovery Reform Act

- **DRRA passed in October 2018**
- **Authorized Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Program with percent set aside**
- **Recovery consistent with latest codes and standards**
- **Define resilience and resilient**
- **More than 50 reforms impact FEMA regulations - <https://www.fema.gov/disaster-recovery-reform-act-2018>**

Reforms in more detail...

- Stafford Act provides federal government's primary authority for administering disaster relief.
- What changed?
 - Section 203: Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Program
 - Section 402 and 406: Hazard Mitigation Grant Program
- How do these reforms related to codes?

Reforms in more detail...

- Congress recognized the **adoption and enforcement** of consensus-based codes as a mitigation strategy.
- **Building energy codes** included as part of the recognized consensus-based codes (resilience impact statement).
- Permits the repair of damaged buildings to the **latest codes and standards.**