

LOUISIANA RECOVERY AUTHORITY

Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals Generator Program

March 18, 2009

OVERVIEW: A resolution to request that the Louisiana Recovery Authority Board of Directors reallocate \$32 million of Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funds to create a Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals Generator Program to purchase generators to improve electrical power generating capabilities prior to and immediately following a disaster, allow facilities to power HVAC, operating suites, and other critical functions currently unavailable with existing generator capabilities.

Whereas, the State has allocated for eligible activities \$1.47 billion of Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) funds allocated by FEMA for Hurricanes Katrina and Rita;

Whereas, the Road Home Elevation Program is being funded with HMGP; that program presents the largest single allocation of these disaster funds which is moving forward now through the Office of Community Development, Disaster Recovery Unit;

Whereas, the Louisiana Recovery Authority, Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness, and Office of Community Development have determined that a portion of HMGP funds can now be reallocated to prevent future losses through the acquisition of generators for hospital and nursing home use during future emergencies;

Whereas, federal HMGP regulations allow for a portion of funds – an additional 5% of the total federal share of HMGP funds allocated to a state after a high wind event – to be used in more flexible ways than other HMGP dollars to meet non-traditional, but nonetheless critical, mitigation needs;

Whereas, the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals has expressed to the Louisiana Recovery Authority and the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness a need for generators for hospitals and nursing homes statewide to mitigate against future storms and to more quickly restore critical services when disasters occur;

Whereas, the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness has confirmed with the Federal Emergency Management Agency that funds for a generator program are an allowable expense under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Recovery Authority Board of Directors does hereby reallocate \$32 million of Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funds to create a Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals Generator Program to purchase generators to improve electrical power generating capabilities prior to and immediately

following a disaster, allow facilities to power HVAC, operating suites, and other critical functions currently unavailable with existing generator capabilities.

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Recovery Authority Board of Directors does hereby recommend that the \$32 million reallocation of Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funds be sent to the Governor for approval.