

ALLIANCE Congressional Hazards Caucus



www.hazardscaucus.org

About the Hazards Caucus

The caucus provides Members with information and education on preparing for, mitigating against and responding to natural and man-made hazards. The caucus provides Members with an opportunity to demonstrate their concern and commitment to reducing hazard losses. Originally established under the leadership of co-chairs Senator Ted Stevens (AK) and Senator John Edwards (NC) in 2000, the caucus reflects a strong partnership between its congressional members and organizations outside Congress that share similar interests. This effort is an outgrowth of the Public Private Partnership 2000 forums on public policy issues in natural disaster reduction.

Why a Congressional Hazards Caucus?

Jurisdiction for hazards programs, both natural and man-made, is spread among many committees in Congress. Each committee only handles a piece of the overall efforts to prevent and mitigate hazards. A caucus can provide the "big picture" to interested lawmakers and their staff, and give them the opportunity to see how the issues that fall within individual committee jurisdictions fit within a larger national effort. Typical caucus events include Capitol Hill luncheon briefings, roundtable discussions, special forums, receptions, and events targeted to a subgroup of the caucus. Events can also be structured so that they provide a forum for raising the visibility of a hazards-related topic with the media and the public.

Shared Objectives

- Focus greater attention in Congress on the natural and man-made hazards facing the nation and improve understanding of the need to mitigate against the impacts of floods, earthquakes, hurricanes, landslides and land subsidence, tornadoes, volcanoes, wind storms, drought, fire, and tsunamis.
- Enhance the integration of science and engineering in land-use planning and building code development.
- Strengthen public and private support for science and engineering research by demonstrating how advances in science and engineering research can be applied to save lives, property and money.
- Support the implementation of new technologies, such as geographic information systems, to address societal challenges faced by state and local government and the private sector.
- Identify additional areas of consensus and common interests related to hazards.

Co-Chairs of the Caucus

Senate:
Mary Landrieu (LA)
Ben Nelson (NE)
Lisa Murkowski (AK)

House:
Jo Bonner (AL)
Zoe Lofgren (CA)
Dennis Moore (KS)

