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NEWS RELEASE

JUDGE EMMETT STATEMENT ON PASSAGE OF CONGRESSIONAL DISASTER RELIEF FUNDING

Harris County Judge Ed Emmett's statement on Congressional passage of a budget agreement containing funding for local disaster relief and flood mitigation projects:

"I am relieved and grateful that Congress has finally acted on our many requests to assist Harris County and Texas in rebuilding from one of the worst weather catastrophes in American history," said Harris County Judge Ed Emmett. "Unfortunately, recovery is a long, ongoing process, and I hope that the funds approved by Congress can be made available quickly.

"And now that Congress has acted, we move on to the next stages, which is to request action from the State of Texas on our joint city-county request for at least \$200 million in aid to shore up our damaged flooding infrastructure. With that in hand, the county can finally move forward in funding its own mitigation and buy-back programs."