## TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
# KEEPING TEXAS PREPARED

## Texas leads the U.S. in the variety and frequency of natural disasters.

The Texas A&M University System is requesting an increase in base funding to its statewide emergency management team, "Keeping Texas Prepared". The team is led by the Texas Division of Emergency Management and four service agencies: Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, Texas A&M Forest Service, Texas A&M Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory, and the Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service.

These 5 agencies are crucially important to reducing the consequences on loss of human life, property, and the economic viability of communities and the State. In order to accomplish these goals, the agencies must have adequate, reliable base funding.

## CRITICAL SUPPORT NEEDED ACROSS 5 AGENCIES

**Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service (AgriLife Extension)**
- Extension Agent Network

**Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM)**
- Workforce Development

**Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX)**
- Recruitment and Retention

**Texas A&M Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory (TVMDL)**
- Rapid Detection of Animal and Human Disease Threats

**Texas A&M Forest Service (TAMFS)**
- Emergency Response Capacity
- Local Firefighting Capacity

# EXCEPTIONAL ITEMS REQUEST

## TDEM

**Workforce Development $19.4 million**
Create Emergency Management Academy providing training in all aspects of emergency management. Fund the Personal Identity Verification Program for collaboration among local, state and federal emergency response officials and enhance security at disaster sites.

## AGRILIFE EXTENSION

**Extension Agent Network $32.2 million**
Provide funding for retention and recruitment of agents and specialists to support family and community health, agriculture, youth development and disaster response and recovery across the state.

## TEEX

**Recruitment and Retention $26 million**
Provide funding to sustain a quality workforce critical for training first responders necessary to protect the lives and property of Texans. Investment in statewide education and emergency response needs can also be expanded with this funding.

## TVMDL

**Rapid Detection of Animal and Human Disease Threats $4.9 million**
Increase funding to ensure early, rapid, and accurate detection of human and animal disease threats, potential bioterrorism events, changes in antimicrobial resistance of pathogens as well as the timely and effective communication of disease data and supply chain issues to decision makers.

## TAMFS

**Emergency Response Capacity $28.9 million**
Increase funding for wildfire disaster response. The threat of wildfires has greatly increased requests for state assistance due to population increases, fluctuating weather patterns, and changes in land use.

**Local Firefighting Capacity $17.4 million**
Increase funding for fire trucks, protective gear, equipment, and training to support Texas Volunteer Fire Departments.

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