

**THE 2009 REBUILD IOWA BILL:  
HELPING COMMUNITIES RECOVER FROM THE STORMS OF 2008**

“These forty-three million dollars will help struggling communities pay their bills, assist non-profit and cultural organizations, and provide much needed financial assistance for individuals and families still facing challenges.”

*Governor Chet Culver  
Condition of the State of Iowa  
January 13, 2009*

Helping families, businesses and communities rebuild after the floods and tornadoes of 2008 remains a top priority. That is why Governor Chet Culver has asked for the first bill sent to him by the Iowa General Assembly in 2009 to be the Rebuild Iowa bill: a \$43 million measure, funded from Iowa’s historic cash reserves. The legislation will:

- **Property Tax Replacement Funds: \$20 million**
  - Create a funding source for communities to help replace lost revenue and property taxes. Create either an application process or means of distribution among disaster-impacted communities.
  
- **Jumpstart Assistance: \$10 million**
  - Additional state-funded and more flexible Jumpstart assistance to help meet some of the gap where federal assistance cannot be used, such as:
    - Grants for those over federal income limits
    - Additional funding for projects just above the federal \$25,000 limit on “Jumpstart Express”
    - Additional mortgage assistance after individuals have exhausted the 3 months allowed under HUD
  
- **Non-Profit Assistance: \$5 million**
  - Forgivable loan program for non-profits and cultural venues impacted by the disaster that rebuild and continue to operate for five years at pre-disaster wages and benefits for employees.
  
- **Individual Unmet Needs Assistance: \$5 million**
  - Provide financial assistance for the “unmet needs” of disaster-impacted individuals and families. This assistance could work through the case management system to ensure that eligible individuals have maximized other state and federal assistance and be available in the form of up to \$5,000 grants (or other identified amount). Possibly administered by DHS.
  
- **Rebuild Iowa Office: \$2 million**
  - Maintain the office that serves as a clearinghouse for the state’s flood-recovery efforts, and coordinates our day-to-day rebuilding plans.
  
- **Skills Training: \$1 million**
  - This proposal creates an accelerated Skills Training Fund of \$1 million and funding for one staff member to administer the fund. Monies from the fund would be used for short-term skills training programs particularly to prepare for a construction workforce in the rebuilding phase.