

## Highlights: Conference Disaster Relief and Recovery, Mitigation, and Resiliency

The Conference Budget **appropriates \$216 million for disaster relief and recovery, mitigation, and resiliency** from previous events and mitigation efforts to prepare the State for future flooding and other natural disasters. All SERDRF funds are nonrecurring. Highlights of this package include items in Section 5.4:

- **COVID Cash-Flow Assistance (Subsection 1):** Provides up to \$125 million available to the Department of Health and Human Services to cover COVID-19 expenses expected to be reimbursed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) at 100% of costs. Once federal reimbursement is received, funds must be returned to the State Emergency Response and Disaster Relief Fund (SERDRF).
- **State matching funds for COVID-19 (Subsection 2):** Adds \$15 million to the State Match Fund to cover the State's share of FEMA Public Assistance costs related to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **Tropical Storm Fred Funds (Subsections 3.a and 3.b):** Increases funding for recovery from Tropical Storm Fred, with \$5 million for private road and bridge repair and \$5 million for debris removal and public infrastructure repair.
- **Directed grants (Subsection 3):** Includes \$46.6 million in directed grants to local governments and non-profits for flood mitigation and resiliency projects.
- **Coastal Federation Living Shorelines Projects (Subsection 5):** Allocates \$6.5 million as a directed grant to the Coastal Federation for living shorelines projects at Black Duck Island, Hammocks Beach State Park, Fort Macon State Park, and Pine Knoll Shores Aquarium.
- **Crop Loss Assistance (Subsection 4 and Secs. 5.4.c and 5.4.d):** Expands the list of counties eligible for existing crop loss assistance programs that provide recovery assistance from Tropical Storm Fred and the Freeze Disaster of April 2021 and allocates an additional \$5 million in assistance for each of these disasters.