

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MID PROVIDES UPDATE ON STRENGTHEN MISSISSIPPI HOMES PROGRAM

JACKSON, Miss. – The Strengthen Mississippi Homes (SMH) Program, approved in 2024 by the Mississippi Legislature, will begin a testing phase in Fall 2024. The testing phase aims to mitigate approximately thirty (30) homes to the Insurance Institute for Business and Home Safety (IBHS) FORTIFIED standard beginning October 1, 2024. The homes selected during this testing phase will be homes that previously applied for roof mitigation through other mitigation grant programs but were never mitigated due to the expiration of funding under those programs.

“My office hopes to identify potential issues during the testing phase to streamline the grant process and better serve applicants,” said Mississippi Insurance Commissioner Mike Chaney. “If successful, MID anticipates a full rollout of the program during the first quarter of 2025.”

The SMH Program is a part of the Mississippi Comprehensive Hurricane Damage Mitigation Program. It is established to issue financial grants to encourage single-family, site-built, owner-occupied, residential property owners to retrofit their properties to make them less vulnerable to hurricane damage. The Mississippi Insurance Department (MID) has contracted with a third-party administrator, Mitigation Assistance and Grant Authority of Mississippi, Inc., to assist the MID with the SMH Program. MID is working closely with the IBHS, Smart Home America, the Louisiana Fortify Home Program, and the Strengthen Alabama Homes Program in establishing the program.

Once the program is fully operational in 2025, more information and applications will be available on the Strengthen Mississippi Homes webpage at www.smh.mid.ms.gov

If there are any questions, please contact the Department at (601) 359-3569.

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