

Submitted by cjarvis

As the ranking Democrat on the homeland security appropriations subcommittee in the U.S. House, **Rep. David Price** is in the middle of sniping over federal disaster relief funding. FEMA is low on money, and Republican leaders in the House have threatened to block additional funds unless they are offset by cuts elsewhere.

The concern is that Hurricane Irene will sop up an alarming amount of money, leaving other parts of the country short of disaster recovery funds when they're needed. Reports are that the FEMA fund will run dry in less than a year.

Earlier this week, **Price** said House Majority Leader Eric Cantor, a Virginia Republican, was holding relief funds hostage. Cantor retorted that Democrats were politicizing his position, and suggested relief funds would be available where needed. **Price** kept the ball in play today by calling on Cantor to quit equivocating.

"People affected by natural disasters need to hear with certainty that Republicans are not going to hold emergency relief hostage to political objectives, and we still haven't heard that," **Price** said.