

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

August 20, 2024

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr.  
President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20500

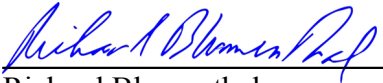
Dear President Biden,

We write in strong support of Governor Ned Lamont's August 20, 2024, request for an emergency declaration under Section 501 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act after the sudden and severe flooding that occurred on August 18, 2024, in the State of Connecticut. Governor Lamont has specifically requested assistance under Categories A (debris removal) and B (emergency protective measures), including Direct Federal Assistance, for Litchfield, New Haven, and Fairfield Counties. We strongly support this request and urge its expeditious approval.

On Sunday, August 18, towns around Connecticut received up to 16 inches of rain – a 1,000-year flood event in some of the harder hit areas. The flooding caused significant damage to infrastructure, including the closure of rail lines and more than 25 roadways; forced some people to evacuate from their homes while others were stranded in theirs; and devastated local businesses. Tragically, two individuals in the town of Oxford lost their lives during the floods. On Sunday afternoon, the state's Emergency Operations Center was activated, as were regional offices. Emergency response personnel and local and state employees worked tirelessly Sunday and Monday to perform rescues, inspect impacted infrastructure, and begin the recovery process. On Monday, August 19, Governor Lamont declared a state of emergency in response to this significant flooding event.

While the state of Connecticut and affected municipalities conducted emergency response and initial recovery efforts, federal support is absolutely critical to full recovery. We therefore urge you to swiftly declare a state of emergency for the State of Connecticut as requested on August 20, 2024, by Governor Lamont to enable vital supplementary federal assistance.

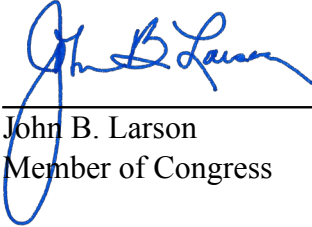
Sincerely,



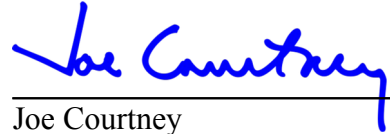
Richard Blumenthal  
United States Senator



Christopher S. Murphy  
United States Senator



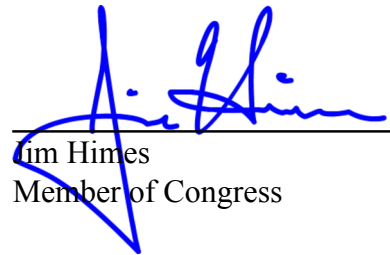
John B. Larson  
Member of Congress



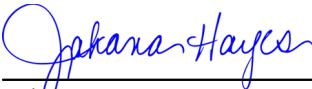
Joe Courtney  
Member of Congress



Rosa L. DeLauro  
Member of Congress



Jim Himes  
Member of Congress



Jahana Hayes  
Member of Congress

CC: Administrator Deanne Criswell, Federal Emergency Management Agency  
Lieutenant General Scott A. Spellmon, 55th Chief of Engineers and Commanding General, U.S.  
Army Corps of Engineers  
Administrator Michael S. Regan, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Shailen Bhatt, Administrator, Federal Highway Administration