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2ND DISTRICT, FLORIDA

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & COMMERCE

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0902

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WASHINGTON, DC 20515
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September 24, 2024

President Joe Biden
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President,

We write to request support of Florida Governor Ron DeSantis' request for a pre-landfall Emergency Declaration for the State of Florida as a result of potential tropical cyclone nine beginning on September 23, 2024, and continuing.

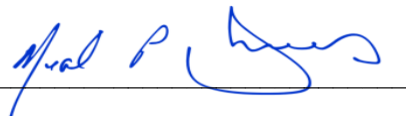
On September 23, 2024, Florida Governor Ron DeSantis declared a state of emergency in 41 Florida counties. On September 24, 2024, he expanded the declaration to 61 counties. Based on updated forecasts and modeling, the Governor is specifically requesting debris removal and emergency protective measures (Categories A and B), including direct federal assistance under the Public Assistance program for Alachua, Bay, Bradford, Calhoun, Charlotte, Citrus, Collier, Columbia, Dixie, Escambia, Franklin, Gadsden, Gilchrist, Gulf, Hamilton, Hernando, Hillsborough, Holmes, Jackson, Jefferson, Lafayette, Lee, Leon, Levy, Liberty, Madison, Manatee, Marion, Monroe, Okaloosa, Pasco, Pinellas, Santa Rosa, Sarasota, Sumter, Suwannee, Taylor, Union, Wakulla, Walton, and Washington Counties (41).

We urge consideration of the pre-landfall emergency declaration to enable the state to respond to expected heavy winds and rain, flooding, storm surge, and tornado activity. Many of the counties projected to be impacted by the storm are currently recovering from Hurricane Debby which hit Florida just last month. Federal resources will be necessary to augment the state funds available to respond to areas impacted by this storm.

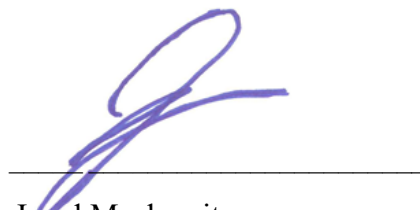
We respectfully ask, within all applicable rules and regulation, that you urgently review and respond to the State of Florida's request and issue the request. We also ask that you expedite any additional requests for assistance the state may subsequently submit. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Neal P. Dunn, M.D.
Member of Congress



Jared Moskowitz
Member of Congress



Brian Mast
Member of Congress



Michael Waltz
Member of Congress



Laurel M. Lee
Member of Congress



Frederica S. Wilson
Member of Congress



Anna Paulina Luna
Member of Congress



W. Gregory Steube
Member of Congress



Kat Cammack
Member of Congress



Maria Elvira Salazar
Member of Congress



Scott Franklin
Member of Congress



Mario Diaz-Balart
Member of Congress



Bill Posey
Member of Congress



Lois Frankel
Member of Congress



Vern Buchanan
Member of Congress



Maxwell Frost
Member of Congress



Carlos Gimenez
Member of Congress



Byron Donalds
Member of Congress



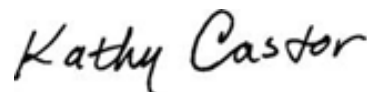
Daniel Webster
Member of Congress



Cory Mills
Member of Congress



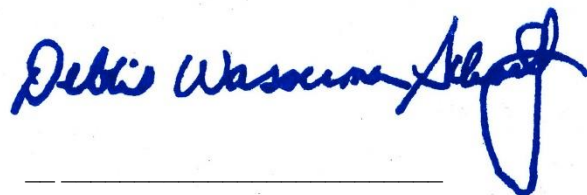
Darren Soto
Member of Congress



Kathy Castor
Member of Congress



Aaron Bean
Member of Congress



Debbie Wasserman Schultz
Member of Congress



Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick
Member of Congress



John Rutherford
Member of Congress



Gus Bilirakis
Member of Congress



Matt Gaetz
Member of Congress