

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

November 30, 2017

The Honorable Donald Trump
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Trump:

We write in support of New Hampshire Governor Christopher Sununu's request for a Major Disaster Declaration for the State of New Hampshire following the damage and expense caused by a severe rain, wind and flooding event that began on October 29, 2017. The Governor's request covers full Public Assistance for Belknap, Carroll, Coos, Grafton and Sullivan counties, and statewide designation for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.

As a result of the October 2017 storm, New Hampshire communities experienced a dangerous combination of heavy rainfall, wind and flash flooding that imposed significant property damage and strained state, municipal and county budgets. During that timeframe, areas throughout the state faced major infrastructure damage with resulting debris removal and significant power outages. In response, Governor Sununu activated the State Emergency Operations Plan and Emergency Operations Center, while the New Hampshire Department of Transportation, New Hampshire Division of State Police, New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services, and the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services increased staffing levels to aid in response efforts and ensure the safety of citizens.

The magnitude of the damage caused by this storm is such that an effective response is beyond the capacity of New Hampshire's state and local governments, justifying federal assistance. Current verified costs associated with this incident is approximately \$6 million statewide, surpassing the state's per capita benchmark. In addition, due to the substantial costs of infrastructure repairs and response efforts, Belknap, Carroll, Coos, Grafton and Sullivan Counties, and the municipalities therein, have exceeded their per capita benchmark.

We urge you to grant a Major Disaster Declaration for New Hampshire as soon as possible in order to ensure that our state and towns have access to the resources and assistance they need to fully recover from this emergency. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Jeanne Shaheen
United States Senator



Margaret Wood Hassan
United States Senator

Carol Shea-Porter

Carol Shea-Porter
Member of Congress

Ann McLane Kuster

Ann McLane Kuster
Member of Congress