

Congress of the United States  
Washington, DC 20515

January 12, 2023

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden  
President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Biden:

As members of the California Congressional Delegation, we write to request that you grant the State of California's request for a major disaster declaration in response to recent winter storms, flooding, and mudslides. This severe weather and the resulting disasters began on December 24, 2022, and are currently ongoing. The intensity and damage of these storms require federal assistance, coordination, and action to supplement state and local efforts.

These recent weather events, which include as many as ten strong atmospheric rivers and a bomb cyclone system, have caused significant and widespread flooding, mudslides, erosion, sinkholes, power outages, and evacuations for thousands of Californians across the state. In addition to extensive physical damages, these weather events have claimed the lives of multiple individuals. At one point, more than 34 million Californians, nearly 90% of the state's population, were under a flood watch and over 400,000 individuals had no electricity, threatening their livelihood and quality of life. On January 9, 2023, the state experienced its highest level of evacuation orders, impacting nearly 100,000 individuals, with an additional 56,000 individuals under evacuation orders.

As detailed in California's request, these consecutive severe storms have resulted in significant flooding and other impacts in 49 counties: Alameda, Amador, Butte, Calaveras, Colusa, Contra Costa, El Dorado, Fresno, Glenn, Humboldt, Kings, Inyo, Lake, Los Angeles, Madera, Marin, Mariposa, Mendocino, Merced, Mono, Monterey, Napa, Nevada, Orange, Placer, Riverside, Sacramento, San Benito, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Francisco, San Joaquin, San Luis Obispo, San Mateo, Santa Barbara, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Siskiyou, Solano, Sonoma, Stanislaus, Sutter, Tehama, Trinity, Tulare, Tuolumne, Ventura, Yolo, and Yuba Counties.

The magnitude of these weather systems has placed a severe strain on California's resources and its ability to swiftly protect public health and safety. Although the state has invested more than \$738 million in flood protection programs in the last two years alone, it has been and continues to be increasingly difficult for the state and local governments to obtain the necessary resources to respond to the devastation caused by these storms.

The size and scope of these storms require additional coordination and a wider range of long-term federal recovery programs. Therefore, we urge you to approve California's request for an expedited major disaster declaration and expeditiously provide all categories of public assistance, individual assistance, and direct federal assistance for all counties set forth in the Governor's request, as well as hazard mitigation statewide.

Sincerely,



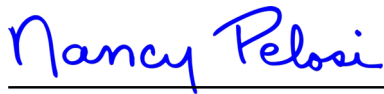
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Jimmy Panetta  
Member of Congress



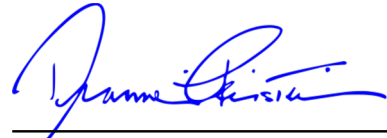
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Alex Padilla  
United States Senator



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Nancy Pelosi  
Member of Congress



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Dianne Feinstein  
United States Senator



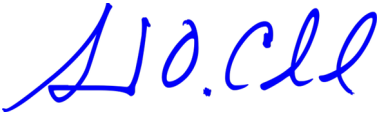
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Kevin Kiley  
Member of Congress



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Adam B. Schiff  
Member of Congress



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Salud Carbajal  
Member of Congress



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Brad Sherman  
Member of Congress



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Zoe Lofgren  
Member of Congress



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Pete Aguilar  
Member of Congress



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Barbara Lee  
Member of Congress



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Tom McClintock  
Member of Congress



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Anna G. Eshoo  
Member of Congress



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Mike Garcia  
Member of Congress



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Sydney Kamlager-Dove  
Member of Congress



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David G. Valadao  
Member of Congress



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Julia Brownley  
Member of Congress



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Doug LaMalfa  
Member of Congress



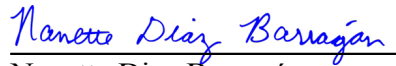
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Mark DeSaulnier  
Member of Congress




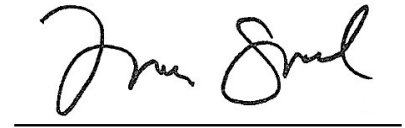
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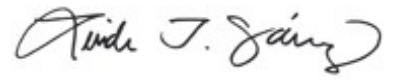
Young Kim  
Member of Congress

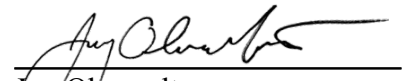
  
Nanette Diaz Barragán  
Member of Congress


  
Darrell Issa  
Member of Congress


  
Grace F. Napolitano  
Member of Congress


  
Michelle Steel  
Member of Congress


  
Linda T. Sánchez  
Member of Congress

  
Jay Obernolte  
Member of Congress

  
Jared Huffman  
Member of Congress

  
Eric Swalwell  
Member of Congress

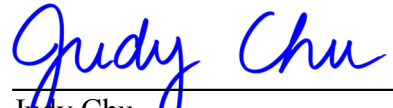
  
Ro Khanna  
Member of Congress

  
Scott H. Peters  
Member of Congress



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Mike Thompson  
Member of Congress



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Judy Chu  
Member of Congress



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Jim Costa  
Member of Congress



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Ami Bera, M.D.  
Member of Congress



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Robert Garcia  
Member of Congress



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Ted W. Lieu  
Member of Congress



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Josh Harder  
Member of Congress



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Katie Porter  
Member of Congress



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Doris Matsui  
Member of Congress



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John Garamendi  
Member of Congress



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MARK TAKANO  
Member of Congress



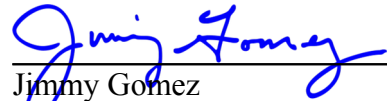
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Raul Ruiz, M.D.  
Member of Congress



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Kevin Mullin  
Member of Congress



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Jimmy Gomez  
Member of Congress




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J. Luis Correa  
Member of Congress



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Norma J. Torres  
Member of Congress



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Juan Vargas  
Member of Congress



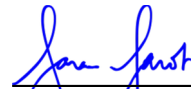
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Tony Cárdenas  
Member of Congress



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Mike Levin  
Member of Congress



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Sara Jacobs  
Member of Congress