Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

September 25, 2024

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden President of the United States The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Ave, NW Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Biden:

We write in support of the State of California's request for a Major Disaster Declaration in response to the Park and Borel Fires impacting Butte, Tehama, and Kern counties, and we ask that you approve it expeditiously.

The State has experienced several fires during the extreme heat event beginning July 24, 2024, and lasting through August 26, 2024. The intensity and damages caused by these fires have overwhelmed state resources and require federal assistance, coordination, and action to supplement state and local efforts.

These fires have caused extensive damage that have threatened the lives and livelihoods of thousands of Californians. The Park and Borel fires damaged homes and businesses throughout Butte, Tehama, and Kern. The brunt of these impacts was born by the most vulnerable communities.

The severity of these fires requires additional coordination and a wider range of longterm federal recovery programs. Therefore, we urge you to expeditiously approve California's request for a Major Disaster Declaration and to provide all categories of individual assistance and all additional assistance set forth in the Governor's request.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Alex Padilla United States Senator

Sincerely,

Doug LaMalfa Member of Congress

Vince Fong Member of Congress