

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

September 10, 2025

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

Dear President Trump:

We write in strong support of Vermont Governor Phil Scott's August 25, 2025 request for a Major Disaster Declaration in response to heavy rainfall and severe flooding in northeastern Vermont, starting on July 10, 2025. We urge you to quickly approve this request.

Local infrastructure in Caledonia and Essex Counties saw severe damage from a storm event beginning on July 10, 2025. Initial federal assessments verified \$1.8 million in Public Assistance needs, with over \$1 million in damage to the small town of Sutton alone. Caledonia County's damages were more than ten times the qualifying threshold of \$4.72 per capita for counties, and Essex County also significantly exceeded the minimum. With these thresholds exceeded, Vermont is requesting Public Assistance for Caledonia and Essex Counties, as well as Hazard Mitigation Assistance statewide and any other available federal disaster assistance.

Vermont has experienced 21 federally declared disasters since 2013, as well as multiple non-declared disasters. For the third year in a row—on the same date—Vermont experienced a major flooding disaster. Both Caledonia and Essex Counties were hit with torrential rains and flooding for the fourth time in three years. This continuous demand for resources has stretched the capacity of affected small towns to effectively recover from this most recent storm.

Recurring storms and flood events have wrought profound devastation on local economies, public infrastructure, emergency response resources, and rural communities across our state. It is critical that all Vermont communities impacted by this summer's flooding event can access all available federal resources necessary for communities to recover and mitigate against future hazards.

We greatly appreciate your prompt and positive consideration of this request for assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and other federal agencies in response to this disaster.

Sincerely,



BERNARD SANDERS
United States Senator



PETER WELCH
United States Senator



BECCA BALINT
United States Representative