

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20510

December 9, 2020

President Donald J. Trump
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Trump,

We write today to thank you for your leadership throughout the record-breaking 2020 Hurricane season and also to respectfully urge you to direct your administration to submit a request for supplemental disaster appropriations to Congress. The Trump Administration has delivered a first-class Federal response to these devastating storms. As members of the Louisiana Congressional delegation, we will strongly support your continued efforts to provide emergency resources to ensure a robust recovery in our communities, which are still reeling from hurricane-related damage.

In particular, we ask that you request emergency appropriations for the many Federal agencies with experience in long-term disaster recovery who are standing by and well-equipped to provide relief to families in Louisiana and take action to protect life and property ahead of the next disaster. These include the Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery program at the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Economic Development Administration, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Coast Guard, and emergency appropriations for federal highways. Finally, we ask that you take into consideration the cumulative impact of this hurricane season on Louisiana and use your authority under Sec. 1232 of the Disaster Recovery Reform Act to approve an increase in the Federal cost-share for Hurricanes Laura, Delta, and Zeta. Louisiana has borne the brunt of this exceptionally destructive season, and we believe these actions will allow Louisiana to recover in the most efficient manner possible.

This year was the most active hurricane season in American history. Louisiana was in the predicted path for a record-breaking six storms. Of those, five categorized storms struck Louisiana, affecting all sixty-four parishes across the state. The most powerful of these storms, Hurricane Laura, hit Southwest Louisiana as a Category 4 storm and is one of the strongest storms to make landfall in American history. Because of your decision to issue major disaster declarations prior to landfall for both Hurricanes Laura and Delta, many lives were saved across Louisiana. Unfortunately, the physical damages to homes, businesses, and infrastructure were

extensive. Hurricane Laura alone caused an estimated \$14 billion in damages. Hurricane Delta further compounded the damage when it made landfall in the same area just forty-two days later. Louisiana's citizens are resilient, but our state and local resources cannot cope with these hurricanes' severity and frequency without emergency supplemental assistance.

Thank you for your diligent work to provide Louisiana with the best response and recovery that America offers. We remain ready to work together on legislation needed to provide emergency supplemental appropriations if requested to Congress.

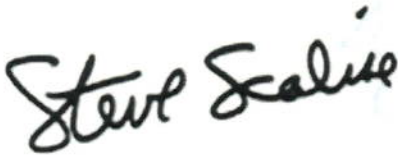
Sincerely,



John Kennedy
U.S. Senator



Bill Cassidy, M.D.
U.S. Senator



Steve Scalise
U.S. Representative



Clay Higgins
U.S. Representative



Ralph Abraham, M.D.
U.S. Representative



Mike Johnson
U.S. Representative



Garret Graves
U.S. Representative