Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, **DC** 20515–1803

October 22, 2021

The Honorable Joseph Biden President of the United States 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20500

President Biden,

I write in full support of Louisiana Governor John Bel Edward's letter, dated October 22, 2021, requesting additional financial assistance and regulatory relief for communities effected by natural disasters in 2020. While I appreciate your administration's initial efforts in the form of P.L. 117-43 more must be done to help the region rebuild.

As you know, the federal government's initial "down payment" of recovery funding was signed into law on September 30, 2021 as part of a continuing resolution (CR) to extend government funding through December 03, 2021. Before that date Congress must pass a budget or an additional CR to continue federal operations. This presents your administration with the opportunity to take additional steps to support rebuilding efforts across Louisiana.

As directed by the previous CR, federal agencies, such as the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), have begun initial rule making processes and allocation determinations. I ask that you speak with these agencies and direct them to utilize the full authorities given to them by Congress through P.L. 117-43 to address to damage caused by Hurricanes Laura and Delta, as well as other declared natural disasters in 2020. I also ask that you give your full consideration to the additional aid that our Governor has requested in his letter.

Respectfully,

Clay Higgins

Member of Congress