



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

May 28, 2021

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

President Biden

I urge you to quickly make a major disaster declaration for the State of Louisiana in the wake of a recent severe rain event. The damage caused by this storm will have long-lasting effects on the people of Louisiana who were already struggling from the aftermath of Hurricanes Laura, Delta, Zeta, and the 2021 Winter Weather event.

As you know, on May 17, 2021, a heavy and prolonged rainfall event occurred in portions of Louisiana. Over the course of four days, the storm caused significant flooding that resulted in the loss of several lives and immense property damage.

The Governor of the State of Louisiana, John Bel Edwards, has made a formal request for a major disaster declaration to include individual assistance for the Parishes of Ascension, Calcasieu, East Baton Rouge, Iberville, and Lafayette parishes and Hazard Mitigation statewide. With the issuance of a major disaster declaration, the full weight of the federal government can be deployed into the affected areas to assist those in need and begin rebuilding.

Further, I again ask that you expedite a request to Congress for a disaster supplemental to provide the region with specific funding for CDBG Disaster Recovery Grants, as well as funding for additional mitigation efforts. Louisiana is desperate for these additional federal resources after a horrific 2020 hurricane season devastated portions of the state. It is beyond time to act.

Again, I respectfully request that the federal government issue a major disaster declaration for the State of Louisiana as well as the formal request for disaster supplemental funds. As elected officials, we must do all we can to assist affected Americans in their time of need.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Clay Higgins".

Clay Higgins
Member of Congress