

**Congress of the United States**  
Washington, DC 20510

April 13, 2010

The President  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We are writing to express once again our support for the State of Maryland's April 8, 2010 request for the declaration of a major disaster for the State of Maryland as a result of two severe winter snowstorms which affected our state between February 5<sup>th</sup> and 14th. Given the massive impact that this storm had on the state's already thin resources, we respectfully request that you approve the provision of supplementary Federal assistance. In addition, we also ask that you approve the Governor's request to receive an additional 30 days to assess storm-related damage in Alleghany County, MD, which suffered extensive flood damage on the heels of the snow storm.

Maryland suffered blizzard conditions throughout both storms, receiving record snowfall amounts and overwhelming the State's capabilities to deal with its aftermath. Governor O'Malley took appropriate action under Maryland law, directing the execution of the State CORE Emergency Operations Plan. The Governor further declared that a State of Emergency existed within the entire state from February 5, 2010 to March 7, 2010, and the Maryland National Guard was called into service. While the Maryland Emergency Management Agency and local jurisdictions continue to work with Federal Emergency Management Administration staff in order to completely survey damages, preliminary assessments show that total expenditures are expected to exceed over \$38 million dollars, a figure that amounts to over six times the statewide per capita threshold. This winter has been an unusually tremendous hardship on our state, causing already strained state budgets to be further stretched in order to respond successive, large snow storms. This situation has the potential to negatively impact services in other areas.

Maryland and its local jurisdictions have contributed a vast amount of resources, which continue to have economic impacts around our state. A declaration of a disaster is necessary to help provide the resources needed by Marylanders. We appreciate your consideration of Maryland's request, and look forward to continue working with you in this recovery.

Sincerely,



Barbara A. Mikulski  
United States Senator



Benjamin L. Cardin  
United States Senator



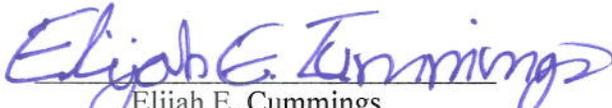
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Steny H. Hoyer  
Member of Congress



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Roscoe G. Bartlett  
Member of Congress



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Elijah E. Cummings  
Member of Congress



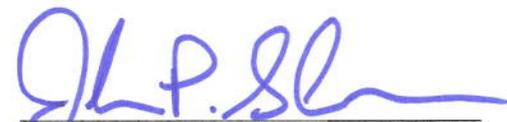
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C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger  
Member of Congress



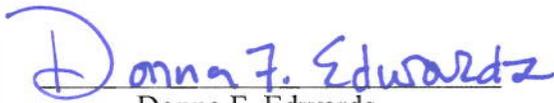
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Chris Van Hollen  
Member of Congress



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John P. Sarbanes  
Member of Congress



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Donna F. Edwards  
Member of Congress



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Frank Kratovil  
Member of Congress

Cc: Patricia G. Arcuri, Acting Regional Administrator  
FEMA Region III  
615 Chestnut Street  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106-4404