

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

August 30, 2011

The Honorable Barack Obama
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

As Members of the New Jersey Congressional Delegation, we are writing to express our full support for New Jersey Governor Chris Christie's request for an expedited declaration of a major disaster for the entire State of New Jersey.

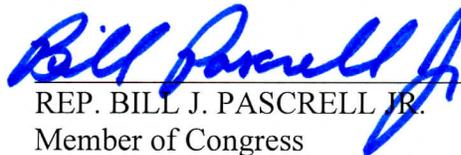
Your declaration would greatly help our state to start recovering from the widespread damage caused by Hurricane Irene. The severe weather over the weekend of August 27 and 28 caused rapid stream and river flooding impacting every section of the state and prompting Governor Christie to issue a statewide State of Emergency and execute the State of Emergency Plan.

Considering the magnitude of the storm and the extremely high preliminary damage estimates that are now coming in from our communities, we respectfully ask that after a proper and prompt review, you agree with the Governor's request for an expedited declaration of a major disaster area. Federal support is extremely important for the thousands of New Jersey's residents who have been displaced from their homes, and it is essential to continue our recovery efforts and to reduce further strain on local, county and the state budgets. Delaying federal resources would greatly impact New Jersey's rebuilding efforts and its economy.

Sincerely,



REP. CHRIS SMITH
Member of Congress



REP. BILL J. PASCRELL JR.
Member of Congress

Rodney P. Frelinghuysen

REP. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN
Member of Congress

Steve R. Rothman

REP. STEVE R. ROTHMAN
Member of Congress

Frank Pallone Jr.

REP. FRANK PALLONE JR.
Member of Congress

Albio Sires

REP. ALBIO SIRES
Member of Congress

Jon D. Runyan

REP. JON D. RUNYAN
Member of Congress

Leonard Lance

REP. LEONARD LANCE
Member of Congress

Robert E. Andrews

REP. ROBERT E. ANDREWS
Member of Congress

Donald M. Payne

REP. DONALD M. PAYNE
Member of Congress

Frank A. LoBiondo

REP. FRANK A. LOBIONDO
Member of Congress

Rush Holt

REP. RUSH D. HOLT
Member of Congress

Scott Garrett

REP. SCOTT GARRETT
Member of Congress