

# United States Congress

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

August 23, 2021

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

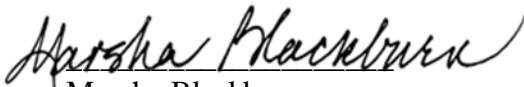
We write to urge swift approval of Governor Bill Lee's request for an expedited major disaster declaration pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief Act due to catastrophic flooding caused by record-setting rainfall on August 21, 2021.

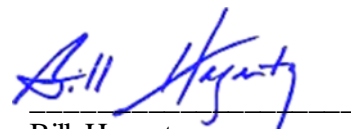
On the morning of August 21, 2021, an estimated 8-17 inches of rain fell across areas in Middle Tennessee, including a 24-hour state record of 17.02 inches in McEwen, Tennessee. The resulting flash flooding left a devastating path of destruction in its wake, damaging roads, destroying homes, and prompting search and rescue operations. At least 16 Tennesseans lost their lives because of the flooding and many others are still missing. Hazardous travel conditions, power outages, and damage to water infrastructure have been reported across the affected areas. State and local officials, first responders, charity organizations, churches, and community organizations immediately began recovery and response efforts.

To respond to this disaster, Governor Lee is specifically requesting Individual Assistance and Public Assistance for Dickson, Hickman, Houston, and Humphreys Counties and the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program statewide. Governor Lee's request for an expedited major disaster declaration pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief Act is attached, and we urge you to approve Governor Lee's request on behalf of the State of Tennessee as soon as possible.

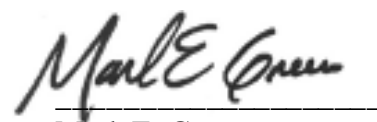
Our offices can provide you with any additional information you need.

Sincerely,

  
Marsha Blackburn  
United States Senator

  
Bill Hagerty  
United States Senator

  
Jim Cooper  
Member of Congress

  
Mark E. Green  
Member of Congress