

Congress of the United States  
Washington, DC 20510

June 25, 2016

The Honorable Barack Obama  
President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, D.C. 20502

Dear Mr. President:

As members of the West Virginia Congressional Delegation, we write to support West Virginia Governor Earl Ray Tomblin's request for federal disaster assistance due to severe storms that have caused significant damage to infrastructure, homes, personal property and businesses throughout West Virginia on June 23, 2016.

Several bands of severe thunderstorms moved through the State of West Virginia starting around 4:30a.m. on June 23, 2016. These storms brought high winds and torrential downpours, causing flash flooding, rising water levels in numerous rivers and streams, power outages and downed trees. The flooding has caused severe damage and destruction to homes and businesses across the state and has stranded multiple individuals, requiring evacuations and rescues.


To date 23 lives have been lost to raging flood waters. This toll may grow as search and rescue efforts continue throughout areas hardly accessible to emergency responders. Homes, personal property and businesses have been ripped away from our hardworking and proud citizens. Devastating damages to roads and infrastructure have made rescue efforts nearly impossible in some areas.

To access federal disaster aid, Governor Earl Ray Tomblin has made a request for a declaration of a major disaster for the State of West Virginia. This request was submitted on June 25, 2016, under the provisions of Section 401 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 5121-5208 (Stafford Act). We respectfully request that you promptly review the Governor's expedited verbal request and continue to work with the Governor's office as they submit additional information regarding the full scope and scale of damage resulting from this disaster.

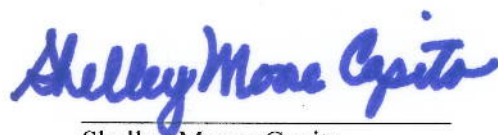
We commend the tireless efforts that local citizens and first responders continue to put forth to aid our great state in the aftermath of such severe storms and damages, and we again urge you to continue to support us in our efforts to rebuild and recover with federal disaster assistance.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

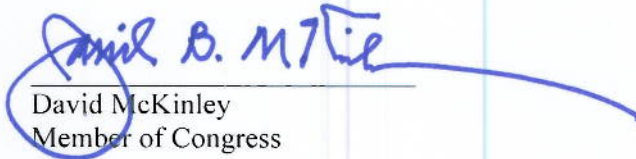
Sincerely,

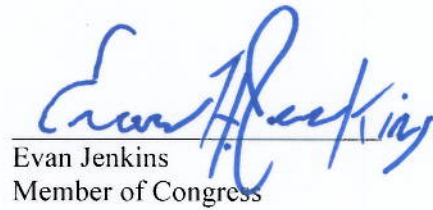


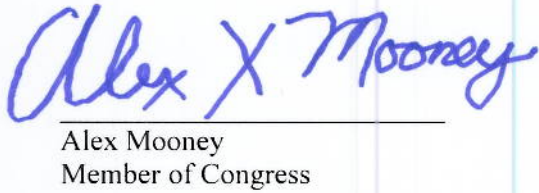
Joe Manchin III  
United States Senator



Shelley Moore Capito  
United States Senator

  
David McKinley  
Member of Congress

  
Evan Jenkins  
Member of Congress

  
Alex Mooney  
Member of Congress