

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

August 21, 2026

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
President of the United States of America
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Trump,

We thank you for your continued support following the severe weather that has impacted our state this summer, including your swift approval of Governor Mike Braun's Emergency Declaration request following the storms, tornadoes, and flooding that began on August 11. That assistance has provided important federal resources as state and local officials continue responding to widespread damage.

As those efforts continue, we write in strong support of Governor Braun's August 20 request for a Major Disaster Declaration. The damage from these storms has been widespread and, in some places, historic. At least eight Hoosiers have died, more than 1,000 families have been displaced, and power outages peaked at more than 360,000 customers, with Northwest Indiana among the hardest hit and tens of thousands still without power. More than 1,700 structures have been destroyed, damaged, or otherwise affected. Flooding forced hundreds of evacuations and water rescues, while roads and bridges were damaged or washed out. In Anderson and Noblesville, the White River exceeded flood records set in 1913, and hundreds of homes along the river in Indianapolis were evacuated.

In the days since the storms, Hoosiers have stepped up to help their neighbors with donations, supplies, and other support. State agencies, local officials, first responders, and volunteers have been working around the clock as well, but the damage has created needs on a scale that communities cannot reasonably meet on their own. Our offices are also hearing from people who are still trying to understand what assistance is available and when it may come. A Major Disaster Declaration would provide the additional federal resources needed to support that work and help families and communities through the weeks and months ahead.

We also continue to support Governor Braun's August 6 request for a Major Disaster Declaration for the separate storms that struck from June 6–26. Many communities, particularly in Northwest Indiana, were still dealing with damage from those storms when the August disaster hit, leaving local governments to respond to another round of serious damage just weeks later.

We appreciate the assistance your administration and FEMA have provided thus far, as well as your continued consideration of the June request. The emergency assistance already approved has been important to the immediate response, and we respectfully urge swift approval of the

Governor's August 20 request to provide the additional support needed for recovery. We stand ready to work with your administration and FEMA to support affected Hoosiers and communities.

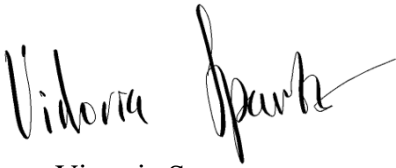
Sincerely,



Todd Young
United States Senator



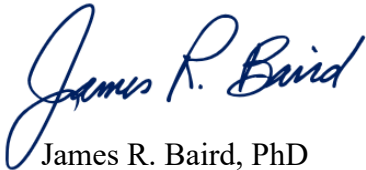
Jim Banks
United States Senator



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Member of Congress



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