Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

December 20, 2018

The Honorable Linda McMahon Administrator Small Business Administration 409 3rd St SW Washington, DC 20416

Dear Administrator McMahon:

We are writing in support of Illinois Governor Bruce Rauner's request for a U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) Disaster Declaration for Christian County in Illinois as a result of a tornado that touched down on December 1, 2018.

An EF-3 tornado touched down in Christian County—one of 29 to touch down in Illinois that day, a state record for December—and caused significant damage to property and injuries to residents. The damage assessment conducted this month by the SBA found that 33 homes and one business incurred major damage as a result of the tornado in Christian County.

The economic impact on the community as a result of damaged businesses and residences is dire, and the demand for state and local government resources for emergency response and the repair of public property is extraordinary. Taking care of the needs of the people and assisting them in recovery is of utmost importance. The Governor seeks timely federal assistance from the SBA.

Governor Rauner has determined that this incident is of such severity and magnitude that effective response is beyond the capabilities of the state and local governments. We respectfully request that you issue an SBA Disaster Declaration for Christian County, and we request that the SBA disaster loans also be offered to the counties that are contiguous to the aforementioned county.

Thank you in advance for your timely consideration of this important request. We stand ready to assist in any way appropriate.

Sincerely,

Richard J. Durbin United States Senator

Rodney Davis

United States Representative

Jan Schakowsky

United States Representative

Darin LaHood

United States Representative

John Shimkus

United States Representative

Bill Foster

United States Representative

Robin L. Kelly

United States Representative

Tammy Duckworth United States Senator

Daniel W. Lipinski

United States Representative

Mike Quigley

United States Representative

Adam Kinzinger

United States Representative

Mike Bost

United States Representative

Bradley S. Schneider

United States Representative

Cheri Bustos

United States Representative

Luis V. Gutiérrez United States Representative

Raja Krishnamoorthi United States Representative

Danny K. Davis
United States Representative

Randy Hultgren
United States Representative

Peter Roskam

United States Representative

Bobby L Rush

United States Representative