

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

September 16, 2025

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

Dear Mr. President:

We write in support of Illinois Governor JB Pritzker's request for federal assistance for the State of Illinois to help five Illinois counties recover from severe storm damage that occurred from August 16-19, 2025. Specifically, he requests a Major Disaster Declaration for Boone, Cook (including the City of Chicago), Kane, McHenry, and Will Counties.

Governor Pritzker has indicated that this incident is of such severity and magnitude that an effective response is beyond the capabilities of the state and local governments. We support his request for authorization of Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Individual Assistance (IA) and Hazard Mitigation programs to aid in recovery. Additionally, we support his request for a U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) physical and economic injury disaster declaration for the affected counties. This would enable low interest SBA disaster loans, including physical and economic injury loans, to support affected individuals, businesses, and non-profit organizations.

During the August 16-19, 2025, period, a multi-day severe weather episode passed through Boone, Cook, Kane, McHenry, and Will Counties, resulting in multiple rounds of torrential rainfall, concentrated swaths of straight-line winds, and flash flooding. The initial storm delivered large hail and damaging winds likely exceeding 70mph in many parts of northeastern Illinois. Follow-on storms repeatedly struck the same regions with severe weather, exacerbating the wind damage and flash flooding. All five counties experienced significant damage from downed trees, power outages, and extreme rainfall totals. Subsequent damage has impacted homeowners, businesses, roadways, and infrastructure. As such, the Governor seeks timely federal assistance from FEMA and SBA.

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

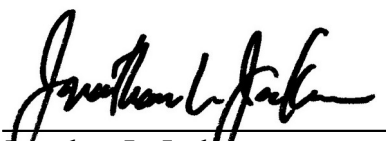
Sincerely,



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator

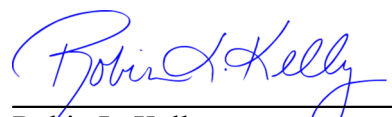


Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator




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Jonathan L. Jackson  
Member of Congress



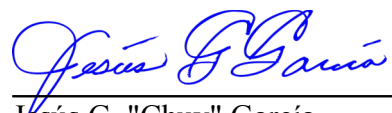
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Robin L. Kelly  
Member of Congress



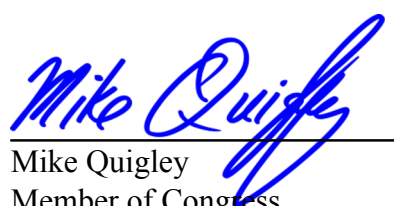
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Delia C. Ramirez  
Member of Congress



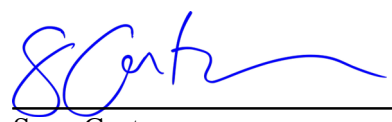
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Jesús G. "Chuy" García  
Member of Congress



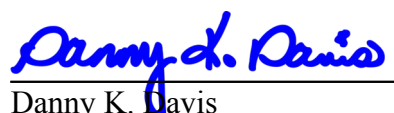
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Mike Quigley  
Member of Congress



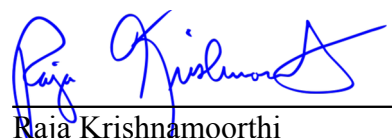
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Sean Casten  
Member of Congress



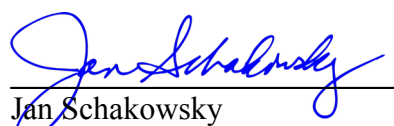
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Danny K. Davis  
Member of Congress




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Raja Krishnamoorthi  
Member of Congress




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Jan Schakowsky  
Member of Congress




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Bradley Scott Schneider  
Member of Congress



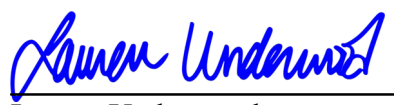
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Bill Foster  
Member of Congress



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Nikki Budzinski  
Member of Congress



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Lauren Underwood  
Member of Congress



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Eric Sorensen  
Member of Congress