Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

August 7, 2023

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr. President of the United States 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW Washington, DC

Dear Mr. President:

We write in support of Illinois Governor JB Pritzker's request for federal assistance for the State of Illinois, to help Cook County recover from storm damage that occurred from late June to early July.

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. He requests Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Individual Assistance and activation of hazard mitigation programs to help individuals and households in Cook County clean up and rebuild following large-scale damage. We also request federal disaster assistance through the Small Business Administration (SBA), including low-interest disaster loan access, for Cook County as well as the counties contiguous to it.

During this period, severe storms passed through Illinois producing heavy rainfall, flash flooding, hail, tornadoes, and straight-line winds. In the Chicago area, localized rainfall totals reached eight inches, resulting in significant power outages and roadway interruptions. Subsequent damage has impacted homeowners, businesses, and local governments. As such, the Governor seeks timely federal assistance from FEMA.

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

Tammy Direkwath

Tammy Duckworth United States Senator

Nikki Budzinski Member of Congress

Sean Casten Member of Congress

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Bill Foster Member of Congress

Jonathan L. Jackson Member of Congress

Raja Krishnamoorthi Member of Congress

Mike Bost Member of Congress

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Danny K. Davis Member of Congress

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Jesús G. "Chuy" García Member of Congress

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Robin L. Kelly Member of Congress

Darin LaHood Member of Congress

Mary E Miller Mary E. Miller

Mary E. Miller Member of Congress

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Mike Quigley Member of Congress

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Delia C. Ramírez **O** Member of Congress

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Bradley Scott Schneider Member of Congress

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Lauren Underwood Member of Congress

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Jan Schakowsky Member of Congress

Eric Sorensen Member of Congress