Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

August 24, 2021

The Honorable Deanne Criswell Administrator Federal Emergency Management Agency 500 C Street SW Washington, DC 20472

Dear Administrator Criswell,

We write in support of Missouri Governor Mike Parson's recent request for a Major Disaster Declaration in response to severe storms and flooding in the state of Missouri.

From June 19-July 1, 2021, a severe storm system generated tornadoes, straight-line winds, large hail, heavy rain, and flooding affecting 21 counties in the state of Missouri. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the State Emergency Management Agency, and local officials began conducting joint preliminary damage assessments on July 8th pursuant to the Stafford Act declaration process.

Damage assessments have brought to light the severity and magnitude of this storm system's impact on individuals and public infrastructure. Tragically, there have been two confirmed deaths as a result of these storms and associated flooding. Joint PDAs have estimated just over \$10 million in damage to public infrastructure and emergency response costs, with nearly \$7.3 million in damage to roads and bridges alone. The state's per-capita threshold for public assistance is nearly \$9.3 million, as determined by FEMA and based on 2010 census data.

We appreciate your service in leading the nation's disaster recovery efforts, as well as FEMA's speedy response in initiating the joint PDA process. We request FEMA's due consideration to Governor Parson's request for a Major Disaster Declaration, and hope that FEMA will continue to work closely with state officials as this process moves forward. Again, thank you for your service to our country and for your consideration of these requests.

Sincere regards,

Roy Blunt

United States Senator

Josh Hawley

United States Senator

Sam Graves Member of Congress

Ann Wagner

Member of Congress

Jason Smith Member of Congress

Billy Long Member of Congress Emanuel Cleaver, II Member of Congress

Blaine Luetkemeyer Member of Congress

Vicky Hartzler Member of Congress

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