

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

June 18, 2008

The Honorable George W. Bush
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Much of the state of Iowa has suffered from damage as a result of record flooding of seven Iowa river basins. In the wake of this flooding more than 38,000 Iowans have been displaced from their homes. The financial impact of the flooding will exceed the impact from the 1993 Iowa flooding, which totaled \$2.1 billion.

Governor Chet Culver has declared 83 counties a state disaster. It is our understanding that the Governor has asked for federal disaster assistance for all 83 of those counties: Adair, Adams, Allamakee, Appanoose, Audubon, Benton, Black Hawk, Boone, Bremer, Buchanan, Butler, Carroll, Cass, Cedar, Cerro Gordo, Chickasaw, Clarke, Clayton, Crawford, Clinton, Dallas, Delaware, Dubuque, Davis, Decatur, Des Moines, Fayette, Floyd, Franklin, Fremont, Greene, Grundy, Guthrie, Hamilton, Hancock, Hardin, Harrison, Howard, Humboldt, Henry, Iowa, Jackson, Jasper, Johnson, Jones, Jefferson, Keokuk, Kossuth, Lee, Linn, Louisa, Lucas, Marion, Marshall, Mitchell, Monona, Montgomery, Muscatine, Mahaska, Madison, Mills, Monroe, Page, Polk, Pottawattamie, Poweshiek, Ringgold, Scott, Story, Shelby, Tama, Taylor, Union, Van Buren, Wapello, Warren, Webster, Winneshiek, Worth, Wright, Washington, Wayne, and Winnebago.

Twenty-nine Iowa counties have been declared Presidential Disasters for Individual Assistance and twenty-seven have been declared eligible to receive Public Assistance. These counties require federal assistance due to the lack of resources at the local level. We strongly support Governor Culver's request to further amend the Presidential Disaster Declaration first issued May 27 to include all 83 counties in Iowa affected by flooding.

These counties require federal assistance due to the lack of resources at the local level. We urge you and your staff to work closely with state and local officials to ensure that federal assistance is made available to all those in need. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Chuck Grassley

Tom Harkin